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TRANSACTIONS OF THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

VOL. LIII.

WOODCHURCH CHURCH

CHURCH [illegible]

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

HISTORIC SOCIETY

OF

Lancashire & Cheshire, Liverpool

FOR THE YEAR 1901.—VOLUME LIII.

NEW SERIES.—VOLUME XVII.

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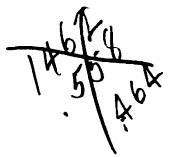

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The thanks of the Society are hereby gratefully rendered to Mr. WILLIAM FARRER, for a donation of £3 towards the cost of illustrating his paper on the Grelley Family.

The Authors of Papers are alone responsible for the facts and opinions in their several communications.

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The present volume has been prepared for the press by R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A. Ch. Ch. Oxford, F.S.A., Honorary Secretary and Editor.

COUNCIL AND OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1902.

(Corrected to November, 1902.)

President.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF CHESTER, D.D.

Vice-Presidents.

THE LORD LIEUT. OF LANCASHIRE (THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G., G.C.B.)
THE LORD LIEUT. OF CHESHIRE (THE EARL EGERTON OF TATTON.
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL
THE REV. THE RECTOR OF LIVERPOOL.
JOHN PAUL RYLANDS, F.S.A.
HENRY DOUGLAS ESHELBY, F.S.A.

Members of Council.

TO SERVE TO END OF 1903.

THOMAS GOFFEY.
PROFESSOR MACKAY, M.A., LL.D.
J. G. PRENTICE.
LIEUT.-COL. PILKINGTON, F.S.A.

TO SERVE TO END OF 1903.

F. C. BEAZLEY.
T. ALGERNON EARLE.
LIEUT.-COL. FISHWICK, F.S.A

TO SERVE TO END OF 1904.

JOHN HARGREAVES.
HENRY PEET, F.S.A.
A. M. ROBINSON.
W. O. ROPER, F.S.A.

Hon. Treasurer.

W. E. GREGSON.

Hon. Librarian.

G. T. SHAW.

Hon. Curator.

W. F. PRICE.

Hon. Secretary and Editor.

R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A. Ch. Ch. Oxon., F.S.A.

Hon. Assistant Secretaries.

W. FERGUSSON IRVINE.
JAMES A. WAITE.

Officers of the Society since commencement.

Presidents.

1. Right Hon. Francis, 1st Earl of Ellesmere, Lord-Lieut. of Lancashire - - - - - - - - - - - 1848.
2. Right Hon. Charles William, 3rd Earl of Sefton, Lord-Lieut. of Lancashire - - - - - - - - - 1854.
3. General the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., D.C.L. - - 1855.
4. Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M.P. - - - 1863.
5. Joseph Mayer, F.S.A., &c. - - - - - - - - 1866.
6. Rev. Canon Hume, D.C.L., LL.D., &c. - - - - 1869.
7. The Very Rev. J. S. Howson, D.D., Dean of Chester - - 1875.
8. Thomas Glazebrook Rylands, F.S.A., &c. - - - - 1879.
9. Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Oxford, F.S.A. - - - 1885.
10. RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF CHESTER, D.D. - 1889.

Secretaries.

1848.	Rev. A. Hume. LL.D., and H. C. Pidgeon.	
1851.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D., and Rev. Thomas Moore, M.A.	
1854.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	
		Assistant Secretaries.
1855.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	Thomas G. Wedgwood.
1856.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	W. W. Rundell.
1857.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	J. H. Genn.
1864.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	J. H. Genn.
1867.	David Buxton.	Charles Dyall.
1875.	David Buxton.	[Arthur Wakefield.]
1876.	David Buxton.	Eugenio Londini.
1877.	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	Eugenio Londini.
1882.	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	T. N. Morton.
1884.	E. M. Hance, LL.B. / R. D. Radcliffe, M.A.	T. N. Morton.
1888.	R. D. Radcliffe, M.A., F.S.A.	T. N. Morton.
1892.	R. D. Radcliffe, M.A., F.S.A.	T. N. Morton. / W. F. Irvine.
1898.	R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A., F.S.A.	W. F. IRVINE. / JAS. A. WAITE.

Treasurers.

1848.	Thomas Avison, F.S.A.
1860.	William Burke.
1867.	John G. Jacob.
1886.	H. D. Eshelby, F.S.A.
1898.	W. E. GREGSON.

	Librarians.	Curators.
1848.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.
1851.	Rev. Thomas Moore, M.A.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.
1859.	David Buxton.	A. C. Gibson, F.S.A.
1867.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	A. C. Gibson, F.S.A.
1869.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	H. Ecroyd Smith.
1871.	John R. Hughes.	H. Ecroyd Smith.
1875.	John R. Hughes.	J. Harris Gibson.
1876	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	J. Harris Gibson.
1877.	E. M. Hance, LL.B.	J. Harris Gibson.
1880.	*(Offices in abeyance.)*	
1885.	W. Thompson Watkin.	J. Harris Gibson.
1886.	W. Thompson Watkin.	W. Forshaw Wilson.
1889.	George T. Shaw.	W. C. Ashby Pritt.
1889.	George T. Shaw.	Charles Potter.
1899.	GEORGE T. SHAW.	W. F. PRICE.

List of Honorary Local Secretaries.

LANCASHIRE.

District.	Name.
Bacup	Rev. J. S. Doxey, Christ Church Vicarage, Bacup.
Blackburn	
Blackpool	The Rev. E. Lupton, Crystal Road, South Shore, Blackpool.
Burnley	W. Farrer, Thornburgh House, Leyburn, R.S.O., Yorkshire.
Carnforth	The Rev. W. B. Grenside, Melling Vicarage, Carnforth.
Clitheroe	A. J. Robinson, Clitheroe Castle, Clitheroe.
Colne	James Carr, Colne.
Denton	The Rev. A. Crofton, Reddish Green.
Flixton	D. J. Leech, M.D., Elm House, Whalley Range.
Haslingden	Henry Stephenson, Haslingden.
Hawkshead	Joseph Rawlinson, Ulverston.
Lancaster	W. O. Roper, F.S.A., Carnforth.
Leigh	W. D. Pink, King Street, Leigh.
Leyland	The Rev. W. Stuart White, Esh Vicarage, Durham.
Ormskirk	James Bromley, The Homestead, Lathom.
Prescot	
Rainford	The Rev. J. Wright Williams, Farnworth.
Ribchester	
Rochdale	Lt.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A., The Heights, Rochdale.
Sefton	W. E. Gregson, 43, Moor Lane, Great Crosby.
Southport	H. S. Threlfall, 12, London Street, Southport.
Ulverston	
Warrington	W. Owen, F.R.I.B.A., Cairo Street Chambers, Warrington.
Whalley and Pendle Hill	W. S. Weeks, Clitheroe.
Wigan	T. R. Ellis, 18, King Street, Wigan.
Winwick and Newton-le-Willows ...	Rev. J. Carson, Winwick, Newton-le-Willows.
Wray, near Lancaster	Rev. C. L. Reynolds, Wray Vicarage, Lancaster.

CHESHIRE.

Bebington	
Congleton	Robert Head, Congleton.
Eastham	Rev. Francis Sanders, Hoylake.
Holmes Chapel ...	Rev. H. G. Barnacle, Holmes Chapel.
Hyde	Rev. J. F. Messenger, Newton Moor Vicarage, Hyde.
Malpas	
Nantwich	James Hall, Lindum House, Nantwich.
Northwich and Middlewich ...	Wm. Bancroft, Northwich.
Thurstaston	
Wallasey	
Wilmslow	George Pearson, Tythe House, Knutsford

LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Society of Antiquaries of London.

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Royal Historical and Archæological Society of Ireland.

Royal Archæological Institute, London.

Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Kent Archæological Society.

Somersetshire Archæological Society.

Sussex Archæological Society.

Chester Archæological Society.

Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian Society.

Leicestershire Archæological Society.

Yorkshire Antiquarian and Topographical Association.

Shropshire Archæological Society.

Architectural and Archæological Society of Lincoln and Notts.

Manchester Literary Club.

Suffolk Archæological Institute.

New England Genealogical Society.

County Kildare Archæological Society.

Thoresby Society, Leeds.

N.B.—It is requested that notice be given to the Secretary of any errors, change of address, or death.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Corrected to November, 1902.

The names of Life Members are printed in SMALL CAPITALS, and those of Resident Members have an asterisk attached.

DATE OF ELECTION.	
1889. April 4	*Abraham, Miss E. C. Riverham, Grassendale Park, Liverpool.
1902. Jan. 16	*Abraham, E. Mitford. 53 Bidston road. Birkenhead.
1902. Jan. 16	*Abraham, T. Fell. 53 Bidston road, Birkenhead.
1877. Feb. 22	Adshead, George Haward. Fern Villas, 100 Bolton road, Pendleton, Manchester.
1895. Nov. 7	*Allwood, T. Massey. Orrell village, Litherland.
1889. Jan. 10	*Alsop, J. W., B.A. 14 Castle street, Liverpool.
1889. Feb. 21	Arkle, Richard Naylor, M.A. 13 Old square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.
1895. Feb. 7	Ashworth, Alfred. Horsley Hall, Gresford.
1888. Mar. 22	*Athenæum Library, Liverpool.
1889. Feb. 7	*Atkinson, Wm. Christopher. 8 Harrington street, Liverpool.
1899. Jan. 19	*Atkinson, W. J. A. 48 Derwent road, Stoneycroft, Liverpool.
1890. Jan. 23	*Ayrton, William. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.
1886. Nov. 18	*Banner, John S. Harmood. Ashfield Hall, Neston, Cheshire.
1901. Nov. 7	*Barlow, W. H. 134 Prenton road West, Birkenhead.
1889. Mar. 7	*Bartlett, William. St. Clare House, West Derby, Liverpool.
1899. Feb. 16	*Beazley, Frank C. Fern Hill, Claughton, Birkenhead.
1896. Feb. 13	Beeston, Charles G. Long lane, Aughton, Ormskirk.
1891. Dec. 3	*Bell, Henry. Greenfield, West Kirby, Cheshire.
1897. Jan. 28	Bellis, W. R. North Madoc street, Llandudno.
1864. Dec. 1	*Benas, B. L. 5 Prince's avenue, Liverpool.
1889. Mar. 7	*Bencke, Albert Henry, M.A. Oliva, West Derby, Liverpool.

Date of Election.	
1901. Nov. 7	Bibby-Hesketh, C. H., M.A. The Rookery, North Meols, Southport.
1901. Nov. 7	*Bigland, Alfred. 84 Shrewsbury road, Birkenhead.
1897. Nov. 4	*Bingham, David A. 15, Brunswick street, Liverpool.
1896. Jan. 16	*Birkenhead Free Public Library. Birkenhead.
1891. Feb. 19	Birley, Major Hugh Arthur. Woodside, Knutsford.
1889. Oct. 31	Birmingham Central Free Library. Ratcliff place, Birmingham.
1870. April 7	Blackburn Free Library. Blackburn.
1891. Feb. 5	Bleckly, William Henry. Thelwall Lea, Warrington.
1883. Mar. 8	Blundell, Rev. T. B. H., M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool. Halsall Rectory, Ormskirk.
1888. Mar. 22	Bodleian Library. Oxford.
1890. Nov. 6	*Bootle Free Library. Oriel road, Bootle.
1888. Mar. 22	Boston Athenæum. Boston, U.S.A.; c/o Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Paternoster house, Charing Cross rd., London, W.C.
1889. Jan. 10	Boston Public Library. Boston, U.S.A.; c/o Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.
1853. Dec. 15	Bossi, Arthur. Care of Thompson, Melly & Co., Brown's Buildings, Liverpool.
1881. Dec. 1	Bourne, Robert W. 18 Hereford square, London, S.W.
1891. Feb. 5	Bretherton, Rev. Humphrey W., M.A. Eccleston Rectory, Chorley.
1891. Nov. 5	British Museum Library; c/o Messrs. Dulau and Co. 37 Soho square, London, W.
1901. Nov. 7	*Bromilow, Henry John. Green Bank, Rainhill.
1876. April 20	*Bromley, James, The Homestead, Lathom, Ormskirk.
1902. Nov. 20	*Brooke, Henry. 5 Falkner square, Liverpool.
1888. Feb. 23	Brooke, Sir Thomas, Bart., F.S.A. Armitage Bridge, Huddersfield.
1897. Mar. 11	Bulpit, Rev. W. T., M.A. Crossens Rectory, Southport.
1881. Jan. 27	Burnley Literary and Scientific Club, (per Burghope, Strange & Anderson, St. James' street.
1885. Jan. 22	Caröe, W. D. 94 Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, S.W.
1888. Nov. 15	Carrington, W. A. Bakewell, Derbyshire.

Date of Election.	
1894. Nov. 1	*Carson, Thomas Ellis. 62 Grove street, Liverpool.
1900. April 5	*Case, Robert Hope, B.A. 88, Mulgrave street, Liverpool.
1891. Nov. 5	Castle, Egerton, M.A., F.S.A. 49 Sloane gardens, London, S.W.
1897. Dec. 2	*Castle, Septimus. 12 Devonshire road, Birkenhead.
1889. Feb. 21	*Caton, Richard, M.D. Rodney street, Liverpool.
1888. Dec. 13	Chadwick, Edwin. Mottram road, Stalybridge.
1889 Jan. 10	Chester, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of, D.D. The Palace, Chester, *President.*
1879. Jan. 9	Chetham Library. Manchester.
1893. Feb. 23	Chicago Public Library. Chicago, U.S.A.
1900. Mar. 29	Chorley Free Public Library, Chorley.
1891. Nov. 5	*Cook, Edmund. Oakfield, Abergele.
1900. Feb. 15	*Cookson, Frank. 30 St. Oswald street, Old Swan, Liverpool.
1894. Nov. 1	*Cornett, Alfred. 15 Lord street, Liverpool.
1902. Nov 6	*Coventry, Harold. Hunter's Lane, Wavertree, Liverpool.
1895. Dec. 5	Crook, John. 6 Waterloo road, Southport.
1901. April 13	*Crosthwaite, Charles C. The Nook, Town row, West Derby, Liverpool.
1896. Mar. 26	*Cullen, Hugh, Junr. Oakhill park, Old Swan, Liverpool.
1899. Mar. 2	Davies, Samuel. Alvanley House, Frodsham.
1895. Nov. 7	De Hoghton, Sir James, Bart. Hoghton Tower, Preston.
1889. Jan. 10	Dempsey, Miss Ellinor Mary. Sand Hey, Hoylake.
1893. Nov. 30	Derby, The Earl of, K.G., G.C.B., Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire. Knowsley, Prescot, *Vice-President.*
1892. Nov. 3	Detroit Public Library. Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. (Per B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, W.C.)
1857. April 23	Devonshire, The Duke of, K.G. Chatsworth, Chesterfield.
1895. Dec. 5	Dickson, Edmund. 2 Starkie street, Preston.
1896. Dec. 3	Duffus, George A., M.B. Carbis bay, Cornwall.
1894. Nov. 15	*Dunthorne, Edwin E. 27 Lord street, Liverpool.
1888. Mar. 22	Earle, Hardman Arthur. 40 Aughton road, Birkdale, Southport.

Date of Election.	
1888. Feb. 9	*Earle, T. Algernon. Hartford, Cheshire.
1851. Jan. 7	Egerton of Tatton, Earl. Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire, *Vice-President.*
1898. Nov. 3	*Ehrenborg, Harald. 49 Sydenham avenue, Liverpool.
1891. Mar. 19	*Elliot, Robert J. 111, Chatham street, Liverpool.
1897. Nov. 4	*Ellis, John W., M.D. 18 Rodney street, Liverpool.
1891. Jan. 22	Ellis, Thomas Ratcliffe. 18 King street, Wigan.
1901. Feb. 14	*Ellsworth, W. S. Ingleside, Blundellsands, Liverpool.
1889. Oct. 31	Esdaile, George. The Old Rectory, Platt-in-Rusholme, Manchester.
1886. Nov. 18	*Eshelby, H. Douglas, F.S.A. 80 Shrewsbury road, Oxton, Birkenhead, *Vice-President.*
1848. Nov. 23	Evans, Edward. Bronwylfa, Wrexham.
1878. Jan. 10	Fairclough, John. Latchford Grange, Warrington.
1891. Mar. 5	Farrer, William. Thornburgh House, Leyburn, R.S.O., Yorkshire.
1871. Jan. 12	Ferguson, William, F.C.S., F.G.S., F.R.S.E. Kilmundy House, near Mintlaw, N.B.
1891. Feb. 19	ffarington, Lieut.-Col. R. A. Mariebonne, Wigan.
1888. Nov. 15	*Finney, Charles F. Huyton House, Huyton.
1880. April 1	Fishwick, Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A. The Heights, Rochdale.
1891. Mar. 19	*Fletcher, Mrs. Alfred. Allerton House, Woolton, Liverpool.
1890. Nov. 6	Formby, John. Formby Hall, Formby.
1891. Dec. 3	*Fox, John D. 44, Norwood grove, Liverpool.
1875. Jan. 7	Garnett, William. Quernmore Park, Lancaster.
1890. Jan. 9	*Gatehouse, Charles. Westwood, Noctorum, Birkenhead.
1889. Feb. 21	*Gladstone, Robert. Harrington street, Liverpool.
1892. Nov. 6	*Gladstone, Robert, Junr., B.C.L., M.A. Woolton Vale, Liverpool.
1893. Nov. 2	*Goffey, Thomas. Amalfi, Blundellsands, Liverpool.
1897. Nov. 4	*Goodacre, William. Terra Nova, Aughton, , Ormskirk.
1902. Nov. 6.	*Golding, Alfred D. Litherland Park, Liverpool.

Date of Election.	
1900. Jan. 18	*Gorst, Herbert C. 42, Parkfield road, Liverpool.
1889. Nov. 14	*Gregson, Wm. Eugene. 43 Moor lane, Great Crosby, *Hon. Treasurer.*
1854. Aug. 31	Grenside, Rev. William Bent, M.A. Melling Vicarage, Carnforth.
1898. Nov. 3	*Handley, William. Aldersyde, Runcorn.
1890. Nov. 6	*Hannay, A. M. Queen Insurance Buildings, Liverpool.
1883. Jan. 25	*Hargreaves, John. Egerton Park, Rock Ferry.
1891. Feb. 5	Head, Robert. West Lodge, Congleton.
1872. Sept. 5	HINMERS, W. Cleveland House, Lancaster road, Eccles, Manchester.
1891. Nov. 5	*Holland, Walter. Mossley Hill, Liverpool.
1891. Nov. 19	Hope, Thomas H. The Laburnums, Atherton, Manchester.
1899. Jan. 19	*Hoult, James. 17 Derwent road, Liverpool.
1888. Dec. 13	HOVENDEN, ROBERT, F.S.A. Heathcote, Park Hill road, Croydon.
1890. Jan. 23	Hughes, George. Metropolitan Bank, Oxford.
1887. Mar. 24	Hutton, Wm. L. "*Advertiser*" Office, Ormskirk.
1891. Nov. 5	Ireland, National Library of, c/o Messrs. Hodges, Figgis & Co., Dublin.
1893. Nov. 2	Irven, Mrs. John D. Dutton Lodge, Preston Brook.
1890. Nov. 6	*Irvine, Wm. Fergusson. 56 Park road South, Birkenhead, *Hon. Assistant Secretary.*
1890. Nov. 6	*Kent-Green, Mrs. Edward. Eaton Cottage, West Derby, Liverpool.
1890. Nov. 6	Kerfoot-Jones, J. The Bank, Hoylake.
1897. Mar. 11	Knowles, Mrs. Frederick. Belair, Birkdale, Southport.
1900. Nov. 29	*Kirby, Bertram Edmund. Overdale, Oxton, Birkenhead.
1897. Nov. 4	Lancaster Free Public Library. Lancaster.
1901. Jan. 17	*Larkin, F. C., F.R.C.S. 54, Rodney street, Liverpool.
1901. Jan. 17	Lathom, The Earl of. Lathom House, Ormskirk, *Vice-President.*
1888. Nov. 29	Lawrence, William Frederick, M.A., M.P. Cowesfield House, Salisbury.
1889. Mar. 7	Leeds, Free Public Library of. Leeds.
1891. Nov. 5	Letts, Rev. Ernest F., M.A. Newton Heath Rectory, Manchester.

DATE OF ELECTION.

1892. Feb. 25 *Lever, William Hesketh. Thornton Manor Thornton Hough, Cheshire.

1889. Feb. 7 *Lister, Alfred Hamilton. Hillfoot, Breeze Hill, Bootle.

1902. Jan. 16 *Liverpool Library (Lyceum), Bold street, Liverpool.

1899. Nov. 2 *Liverpool Reform Club. Liverpool.

1901. Feb. 14 *Liverpool, Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of. The Palace, Liverpool. *Vice-President.*

1893. Nov. 2 *Livesey, John. 30 James street, Liverpool.

1901. Feb. 1 *Lockett, R. Cyril. 34, Alexandra drive, Liverpool.

1889. Oct. 31 London, Library of the Corporation of, (Charles Welch, Librarian.) Guildhall. London, E.C.

1891. Nov. 5 Mainwaring, Colonel Charles Salusbury, Galtfaenan, Trefnant, R.S.O., N. Wales.

1898. Nov. 3 *Marshall, Ambrose. 11 Rumford street, Liverpool.

1888. Feb. 9 MARSHALL, GEORGE WILLIAM, LL.D., F.S.A., *Rouge Croix.* College of Arms, Queen Victoria street, London, E.C.

1898. Jan. 20 *Mason, George Percival. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.

1896. Nov. 5 May, Thomas. 20 Museum street, Warrington.

1891. Feb. 19 Mayler, William. 142 Liverpool road, Birkdale, Southport.

1887. Feb. 10 *McKay, Professor, M.A., LL.D. University College, Liverpool.

1888. Mar. 22 Manchester Free Reference Library. King street, Manchester.

1888. Nov. 1 *Mansergh, Jas. Fleming. Clougha, Hargreaves road, Sefton park, Liverpool.

1896. Dec. 3 Martin, Edgar G. Brookfield, Ormskirk.

1874. Feb. 18 *Mawdsley, James Platt. 26 Castle street, Liverpool.

1890. Nov. 6 *Meade-King, Richard R. Sandfield park, West Derby.

1899. Nov. 2 *Muir, J. R. B., M.A. 17 Willowbank road, Birkenhead.

1888. Nov. 1 Myres, T. Harrison. 15 Chapel street, Preston.

1897. Mar. 25 New York, Public Library of. New York, U.S.A.; c/o B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square. London, W.C.

1893. Feb. 9 Newberry Library. Chicago, U.S.A.; c/o B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, W.C.

Date of Election.	
1874. Dec.	10 Nicholson, Major Edward J. 16, Pulteney street, Bath.
1889. Feb.	7 Owen, William. Cairo street Chambers, Warrington.
1888. Mar.	22 Owens' College, c/o J. E. Cornish, 16 St. Ann's square, Manchester
1902. Jan.	30 *Paige-Cox, Rev. W. L., M.A. St. Peter's Vicarage, Rock Ferry.
1901. Feb.	28 Paget-Tomlinson, W. S., M.D., The Biggins, Kirby Lonsdale.
1891. Dec.	17 Parker, Major John W. R. Browsholme Hall, Clitheroe.
1896. Dec.	3 *Parry. W. E. 67 Lord street, Liverpool.
1891. Feb.	5 Pearson, George. Tythe House, Knutsford, Cheshire.
1890. Nov.	6 *Peet, Henry, F.S.A. 97 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.
1860. Mar.	21 Petty, Thomas Shaw. 128 Mount street, London, W.
1894. Nov.	1 *Phipps, S. W. Harlescot, Longland road Liscard.
1877. Dec.	13 Pierpoint, Robert, M.A., M.P. St. Austin's, Warrington.
1890. Dec.	18 Pilkington, Sir George A., Knt. Belle Vue Lord street West, Southport.
1886. Nov.	18 *Pilkington, Lieut.-Col. John, F.S.A. Rookwood, Sandown Park, Wavertree.
1896. Nov.	5 *Pilkington, J. Arthur. Heathfield, Maghull.
1900. Mar.	15 *Platt, Miss Edith M.. M.A. Standish House, Ivanhoe road, Liverpool.
1898. Feb.	3 *Poole, Miss M. Ellen. Alsager, Cheshire.
1900. Oct.	25 *Powell, Rev. Frank J., M.A Knotty Ash Vicarage, Liverpool.
1890. Feb.	20 *Prentice, John George. 62 Shrewsbury road, Birkenhead.
1892. Feb.	11 *Price, William F. College road, Crosby.
1889. Feb.	21 *Quiggin, John M. 8 Harrington street, Liverpool.
1899. Jan.	19 Quinn, John, Jr. Heatherlea, Formby.
1889. Oct.	31 *Radcliffe, Sir David, Knt. Rosebank, Knowsley, Prescot.

DATE OF ELECTION.

1888. Feb. 9 *Radcliffe, Frederick M. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.

1896. Dec. 17 *Radcliffe, John, B.A. 50 Ampthill road, Aigburth Vale.

1879. Jan. 8 *Radcliffe, Richard Duncan, M.A., F.S.A., Old Swan, Liverpool, *Hon. Secretary.*

1892. Nov. 3 Radclyffe, C. R. Eustace. The Hyde, Wareham, Dorset.

1891. Feb. 5 Reynolds, Rev. Charles L., M.A. Wray Vicarage, Lancaster.

1889. Jan. 10 Ridgway, John Clare. Grappenhall lodge, near Warrington.

1890. Nov. 6 *Robinson, Arthur Muschamp. Lorne road, Claughton, Birkenhead.

1891. Nov. 5 Robinson, Lieut.-Col. Herbert J. Stanhill Court, Charlwood, Surrey.

1901. April 13 Rochdale Free Public Library, Rochdale.

1876. April 20 ROPER, WILLIAM O., F.S.A. Yealand Conyers, Carnforth.

1900. Nov. 29 Rosenberg, Louis J. 16-17 McGraw Building, Detroit, Mich.. U.S.A.

1901. Nov. 7 *RUNDELL, TOWSON W. 25 Castle street, Liverpool.

1888. Nov. 29 *Russell, Sir Edward R., Knt. 6 Abercromby square, Liverpool.

1870. Nov. 3 *Rylands, John Paul, F.S.A. Heather Lea, Claughton, Birkenhead, *Vice-President.*

1874. Dec. 10 Rylands, William Harry, F.S.A. Society of Biblical Archæology, 37 Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, London, W.C.

1891. Feb. 19 Ryland, John William. Rowington, Warwick.

1890. Nov. 6 *Ryley, Thomas Cropper. 19 Sweeting street, Liverpool.

1888. Mar. 22 St. Helens Free Public Library. St. Helens.

1872. Mar. 21 SALISBURY, THE MARQUESS OF, K.G. Hatfield, Herts.

1898. Nov. 3 *Sampson, John. University College, Liverpool.

1888. Nov. 15 SANDEMAN, LIEUT.-COL. JOHN GLAS M.V.O., Sub-Officer H.M. Hon. Corps of Gentlemen at Arms. 24 Cambridge square, London, W.

1891. Nov. 19 Sanders, Rev. Francis, M.A. Hoylake Vicarage, Cheshire.

1897. Dec. 16 *Scarborough, Charles. 8 Upper Stanhope street, Liverpool.

Date of Election.	
1898. Feb.	3 Scarisbrick, Charles. Scarisbrick Lodge, Southport.
1889. Jan.	10 *Scholefield, Joshua William. 33 Pembroke road, Bootle.
1894. Nov.	1 *Scott, David. 10 North John street, Liverpool.
1898. Nov.	3 *Seddon, F. W. Woodhey, Rock Ferry.
1891. Nov.	5 Shaw, Giles. 4 Ash street, Southport.
1894. April	5 Sheldon, Alfred S., Town Clerk. Burnley.
1897. Nov.	18 Smith, Bernard. Church street, Rainford.
1892. Nov.	3 *Smith, Rev. Frederick. Island road, Garston.
1897. Jan.	28 Southport (Atkinson) Free Public Library.
1880. April	1 Stanning, Rev. Joseph Heaton, M.A. The Vicarage, Leigh, Lancashire.
1891. Feb.	5 Stapleton-Bretherton, Frederick. The Hall, Rainhill.
1899. Aprll	13 Starkie, Colonel Edmund A. Le Gendre. Huntroyde, Burnley.
1876. April	6 *Stewart, Rev. Alexander, M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool. 29 Sandon street, Liverpool, *Vice-President*.
1890. Nov.	6 *Stewart, Rev. Percy, M.A. The Rectory, West Derby.
1893. Nov.	2 Stoner, Thomas. The Orchard, Lathom, Ormskirk.
1891. Nov.	5 Stonyhurst College, Rev. the Rector of, S.J. Blackburn.
1891 Mar.	19 STUBS, PETER. Blaisdon Hall, Newnham, Gloucestershire.
1893. Mar.	9 Stuttard, Thomas. Lawnswood, Swinton park, Manchester.
1902. Nov.	6 *Sutton, Percy Ryder. 27 Bentley road, Liverpool.
1897. Dec.	16 Taylor, Alexander. St. Mary's place, Bury.
1898. Nov.	3 *Taylor, Edward Russell. 67 Lord street, Liverpool.
1889. Feb.	7 *Taylor, Francis Willis. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.
1889. April	4 Taylor, Henry. Braeside, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells.
1872. Sept.	5 TAYLOR, JAMES. Rencombe, Gloucestershire.
1887. Feb.	10 TEMPEST, MRS. ARTHUR CECIL. Broughton Hall, Skipton-in-Craven.
1889. Feb.	21 *Thompson, Edward P. Whitchurch, Salop.
1900. Jan.	18 *Thompson, Miss. 4 Abercromby square, Liverpool.
1886. Nov.	1 Threlfall, Henry S. 12 London street, Southport.

DATE OF ELECTION.

1890. Nov. 6 Tonge, William Assheton. Disley, Cheshire.

1888. Feb. 23 Toulmin, John. "*Guardian*" Office, Preston.

1889. Oct. 31 *Turton, Fletcher Thomas. Municipal Buildings, Liverpool.

1890. Dec. 18 *Van Gruisen, Nicholas. 27 Bold street, Liverpool.

1894. Nov. 29 *Vyner, Robert C. de Grey. Newby Hall, Ripon.

1889. Oct. 31 *Wainwright, Thos. T. 13 Union court, Liverpool.

1894. April 5 Warburton, Rev. William. Altcar Vicarage, Liverpool.

1892. Nov. 3 Warrington Museum. Warrington.

1897. Nov. 4 WEARING, J. W., M.A. Fleet square, Lancaster.

1849. Feb. 1 *Webster, George. 6 York Buildings, Dale street, Liverpool.

1891. Mar. 5. Weeks, W. Self. Clitheroe.

1888. Dec. 13 WELDON, WILLIAM HENRY, *Norroy King of Arms*. College of Arms, London, E.C.

1856. Jan. 3 WELTON, THOMAS A. 38, St. James's road, Brixton, London, S.E.

1901. Nov. 7 *Whatham, W. R. 24 Sir Thomas street, Liverpool.

1896. Mar. 26 *Whinnerah, William. 20 Wellington road, Oxton, Birkenhead.

1897. April 8 White, Richard Prosser, M.D. Standishgate, Wigan.

1891. Feb. 5 White, Rev. W. Stuart, M.A. Esh Vicarage, Durham.

1889. Jan. 10 Wigan Free Library, Wigan.

1892. Dec. 15 Williams, Rev. J. Wright, M.A. Farnworth Vicarage, Widnes.

1896. Nov. 19 *Williamson, James. Stanley road, Linacre.

1885. Nov. 26 *Wilson, W. Forshaw. 20 Croxteth road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

1865. Dec. 7 WOOD, RICHARD HENRY, F.S.A., F.R.G.S. Belmont, Sidmouth, S. Devon.

1891. Nov. 19 WOODHOUSE, MISS E. D. Burghill Court, Hereford.

1888. Dec. 13 Woods, Sir Albert William, K.C.M.G., C.B., F.S.A., *Garter King of Arms*. 69 St. George's road, Warwick square, London, S.W.

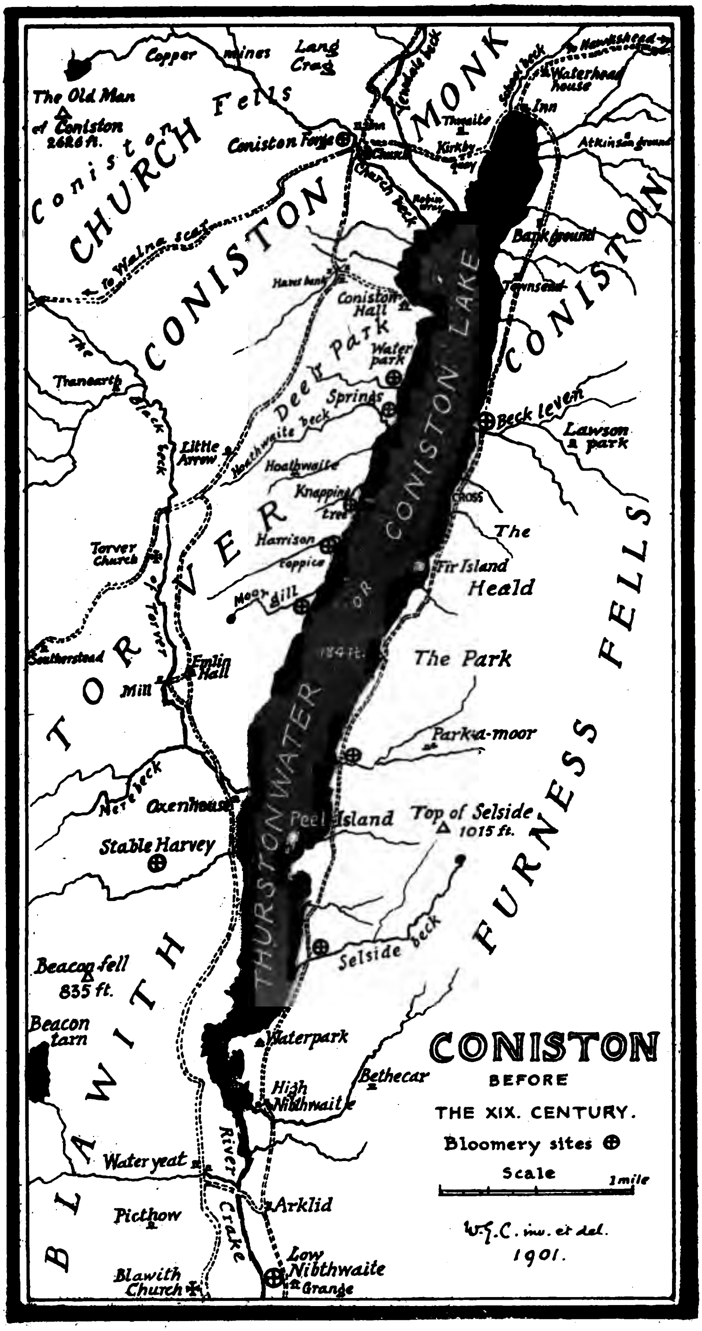
1892. Nov. 3 Worsley, Philip J. Rodney Lodge, Clifton, Bristol.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Date of Election.	
1893. Nov. 30	Dolan, Dom Gilbert, O.S.B. St. Benedict's, Ealing, London, W.
1888. Mar. 8	*Shaw, George Thomas. Athenæum, Church street, Liverpool, *Hon. Librarian.*
1894. Nov. 1	*Waite, James A. 6 Fairfield street, Fairfield, Liverpool, *Hon. Assistant Secretary.*

HONORARY MEMBERS.

1870. Sept. 13	Avebury, Lord, F.R.S., F.S.A. High Elms, Hayes, Beckenham, Kent.
1875. Jan. 7	Coughtrey, Millen. London street, Otago, New Zealand.
1880. Oct. 5	Dean, John Ward. 18 Somerset street, Boston, Mass., United States of America.
1870. Sept. 13	Hooker, Sir Joseph Dalton, C.B. The Camp, Sunningdale, Berkshire.
1852. Dec. 9	MacAdam, Robert. 18 College square East, Belfast.
1870. Sept. 13	Stokes, Sir George Gabriel, Bart., M.P., P.R.S., LL.D. Pembroke College, Cambridge.


CONISTON
BEFORE
THE XIX. CENTURY.
Bloomery sites ⊕
Scale
1 mile
W. G. C. inv. et del.
1901.
The Old Man of Coniston 2626 ft.
Copper mines
Lang Crag
Coniston Fells
CHURCH
CONISTON
MONK CONISTON
Coniston Forge
Church
Church beck
Kirkby quay
Thwaite
Inn
Waterhead house
Hawkshead
Atkinson ground
Bank ground
Townsend
to Walna scar
Coniston Hall
Deer Park
Water park
Springs
Beck leven
Lawson park
Thwaite
Little Arrow
Hoathwaite beck
Hoathwaite
Knapping tree
CONISTON LAKE
THURSTON WATER OR CONISTON LAKE
Cross
The Heald
Fir Island
Harrison coppice
Moor gill
TORVER
Torver Church
Torver beck
Southerstead
Emlin Hall
Mill
The Park
Park-a-moor
Nere beck
Oxenhouse
Peel Island
Top of Selside 1015 ft.
Stable Harvey
FURNESS FELLS
Selside beck
Selside
Beacon fell 835 ft.
Beacon tarn
BLAWITH
Waterpark
Bethecar
High Nibthwaite
Water yeat
River Crake
Arklid
Picthow
Low Nibthwaite Grange
Blawith Church

TRANSACTIONS.

THE ANCIENT IRONWORKS OF CONISTON LAKE.

By W. G. Collingwood, M.A.

Read 14th February, 1901.

I.—THE BLACK COUNTRY OF CONISTON.

THE summer tourist who has just left the tall chimneys of Barrow and Askam finds a wonderful contrast at Coniston, in its perfectly peaceful valley, with woods and moors reaching down from the mountains to a clear lake. Wandering by those rocky bays and pebbly shores, where trout leap in the sun and kingfishers flash through the shade, nobody would believe that such an Earthly Paradise was once a black country. Yet all along the margin of the lake, and on the pretty island of bluebells and heather, and up the becks that come down from the fells, there are remains which show that once upon a time iron-furnaces blazed and charcoal hearths smoked there, and black slag-heaps cumbered the woodland nooks which now are so dainty with ferns and flowers.

In High Furness, the district of which Coniston Lake is the centre, and the most northern part of Lancashire, there are about 30 known sites where

iron was smelted in the ancient way with charcoal, producing a *bloom*—the lump of metal made by *blowing* in the furnace—whence the name *bloomeries*. Of these sites about half are in the valley of Coniston, and eight are actually on the shore of the lake:

Beck-leven (below Brantwood)	East side.
Parkamoor beck (below Fir Island)	,,
Selside beck[1] (below Peel Island)	,,
Moor-gill (above Sunny-bank)	West side.
Harrison Coppice (opposite Fir Island)	,,
Knapping-tree (opposite Fir Island)	,,
Springs (opposite Beck-leven)	,,
Water-park (below Coniston Hall)	,,

All these have been bloomeries of a somewhat similar kind, and on Peel Island some ironworks have been carried on, of a rather different type and perhaps at a different period. Small bloomeries have also been in blast at Tom-gill (the beck coming down from the Monk Coniston Tarns, often called Glen Mary), and at Stable Harvey in Blawith. One is said to be at the limekiln in Yewdale. There were two bloomeries of the later and larger type at Coniston Forge (up stream from the church) and at Low Nibthwaite; and two others further down the Crake: making sixteen in all the valley, now known. There are, of course, many beside in the Lake district, as in other parts of the country.

In some of these sites there is nothing to see but scraps of slag in the stream-bed or on the shore. Elsewhere the mounds of slag are very large and remarkable, and in two places there are foundations of stone furnaces yet visible, beside those which have been excavated recently.

Much has been written about them, and their age has been variously guessed. There are no

[1] I have not been able to locate the hearth, but I have found slag in the beck above the road here.

traditions or accounts of the smaller hearths, though the history of the Coniston Forge and the ironworks in the Crake valley is pretty well known. About the minor sites the Rev. T. Ellwood, of Torver, said, in 1884 (*Trans. Cumb. and West. Ant. and Arch. Soc.*, viii, art. 10), "the most natural conclusion seems to be that they are Roman, or very "early English"; but in 1896 he read a revised edition of his paper to the same society at Coniston (printed in the *Barrow News*, Sept. 22nd, 1896), suggesting that they were the work of the Norse settlers. On the other hand, Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A., of Hawkshead, thought in 1898 (same *Transactions*, xv, art. 21, reprinted in *Archæological Journal*, lv, 88-105), that they were of the latter part of the sixteenth century at the earliest.[2] It is hardly necessary to mention the opinions of other writers earlier in date or less familiar with the place and circumstances; but this paper will show that there have been bloomeries at work not far from Coniston since Roman times until the present century, and that recent excavations suggest various dates for various sites.

II.—Roman Bloomeries.

Mr. J. D. Kendall, F.G.S., in his book, *On the Iron Ores of Great Britain and Ireland* (1893), has collected evidence that iron-smelting was carried on by the Romans in many parts of England and South Wales, though there are no traces of Roman bloomeries in Scotland and Ireland. Iron was known to the Britons in Cæsar's time, but in small quantities and probably in the south only; so that we need not expect to find pre-Roman iron-works in Lancashire. Roman coins, pottery, and fibulæ have been found among iron-slag in Sussex, in

[2] See also his *Hawkshead; its History, &c.*, 1899, pp. 287, 288.

Somerset, in the Forest of Dean, at Worcester, in South Wales, in Northamptonshire, in Durham and Northumberland; making it certain that the Romans smelted iron in most of the provinces they occupied.

Quite recently, near the Roman camp at the head of Windermere, the Roman corduroy road has been discovered, and Mr. Cowper says[3] that a mass of bog-iron ore and charcoal was found in something like a hearth near the road, though the nature of the excavations did not allow further search to be made, by which it might have been settled whether the site was a Roman bloomery or smithy.

The name "Roman bloomery," attached to some of our sites on the Ordnance Map, is an error.

III.—Early Mediæval Bloomeries.

Sir John Evans said (in his address at Northampton, in 1878) that iron-smelting dwindled during the Saxon and Norman ages, although Domesday mentions *Ferraria* at Gretton and Corby (Northamptonshire) in the time of Edward the Confessor, and royal furnaces were at work at Geddington from Henry II to Henry III. But that there were ironworks before the Conquest in Furness appears from the place name of "Ouregrave" in Domesday, which must be identical with Orgrave, known in the thirteenth century for iron mines, and whether derived from Anglo-Saxon or Norse evidently having that meaning.

We also know that the same Scandinavian or Viking people who settled our district in the tenth and eleventh centuries, settled in Iceland about the same time. There are many accounts in the sagas of their work in iron; they were "great smiths" and smelted with charcoal in the primitive way in

3 *Trans. Cumb. and West. Ant. and Arch. Soc.*, n.s. ii, p. 34.

which the work is done all the world over. Many of the sites of early Icelandic ironworks mentioned in the sagas are still to be seen. Among the exhibits at the reading of this paper (and now in the Coniston Museum) was a specimen of slag I took from the bloomery at Ljárskógar on Hvammsfjord, where Grettir the Strong is said to have worked with his kinsman, Thorstein Kuggason, in 1018. These Icelandic bloomeries must be of a very early date, because the wood which covered the country at its discovery was soon used up, and could not have supported bloomeries for many generations. The Ljárskógar slag appears identical with that of the smaller Coniston bloomeries, and shows that the kinsmen of the Icelanders may have worked iron in Furness, though nothing has yet been found to prove that they did.

It is only in the twelfth century that we have documentary evidence of a great extension in the industry, first in the Forest of Dean. In the Weald, in Derbyshire, and in Northumberland the earliest references are somewhat later; but in Cumberland a forge and iron-mine were given at Egremont to the monks of Holm Cultram by William, third Earl of Albemarle, who died in 1179.

IV.—Furness Abbey and Mediæval Iron-working.

Early in the thirteenth century Furness Abbey got its first grant of iron-mines, at the place which we have seen was known as an iron-mine nearly 200 years before. Roger of Orgrave gave them the mine "cum . . . aquæ cursu ad illam scil. "mineriam lavandum," a grant confirmed by his son Hamo in 1235 (*Coucher Book of Furness*, p. 229). About 1230 Thomas le Fleming gave them iron-mines in Elliscales. By 1292 a great part of their income was derived from iron-works. A valuation

of "mineria ferri deductis necessariis et expensis," came to £6 13*s.* 4*d.*, or twice as much as their sheep and cattle farming profits. If the return was a tithe, their income from iron would equal about £2000 of our money.

Canon Atkinson, in his introduction to the *Coucher Book of Furness*, ch. xviii., reckoned that they must have had some 40 hearths to produce the iron they made. In the Abbey lands of High Furness there are less than twenty known bloomery sites which can on any supposition be attributed to the period, and it is reasonable to suppose that part, at least, of these must have been monks' workings.

Some of the operations of ancient mining may be gathered from a grant *(Coucher Book*, pp. 261-268) by which Hugh de Moresby gave iron-mines "tam infra prædia mea, domicilia et ædificia quae-"cumque, quam extra, cum libero ingressu . . . "ad praed. mineriam operandum, fodiendum, et "perquirendum, lavandum, purgandum, operan-"dum, et inde cariandum ubicunque voluerint." The carrying away was a great point. William de Merton also (*temp.* Richard II) gave mines in Dalton, Orgrave, and Merton (Marton in Furness) to Furness Abbey, with leave to wash the ore and carry it away when and where they liked. *(Coucher Book*, pp. 288-299.) When the wood near the mines was exhausted, it became easier to carry the ore to the place where charcoal was burned than to bring the charcoal—so much greater in bulk—to the ore. An acre of forest was not enough to supply charcoal for smelting two tons of metal, and so the woods were gradually devastated over a wider and wider area. We can gather a few facts about this, and make a few deductions as to the period at which the scene of smelting operations had to be shifted from one point to another.

In 1240, the Abbey, which owned the eastern side of the lake, but not the lake itself, got leave from the Baron of Kendal to put boats on the lake of Coniston for fishing and carrying. The carrying was chiefly of timber for building; but the tops and branches were no doubt used for charcoal. That on the other shore the smelting works were creeping up the valley is seen from the grant, before 1282, of William de Lancaster to Conishead Priory of the dead wood in Blawith,[4] for charcoal to supply the canons' bloomeries—for it was not only Furness Abbey that dealt in iron; and, indeed, more bloomeries exist on the side that did not belong to the Abbey than on the shore that did. Thus in the thirteenth century we infer that smelting went on by Coniston lake shore, well up the west side.

On the east side there is a remarkable coincidence between the sites of Furness Abbey "parks" (or early clearings for sheep farms) and the bloomeries we find there. Near Selside beck, where slag has been found, is Waterpark—anciently Water-side-park, apparently the earliest of the Abbey sheep farms. Above Parkamoor beck bloomery is Park-a-moor—the sheep farm on the moor. Above Beck-leven bloomery is Lawson park, the latest of the Furness Abbey sheep farms. I think the inference is, that when the land at the foot of the lake was cleared they put sheep on it, and went up stream to the next beck for the site of their bloomery; and having exhausted the wood there they went up to the next, Beck-leven. Now in 1338 the Abbot of Furness was permitted by royal licence to impark various woods, including Clayf et Fournesfelles, which last must refer to Parkamoor, for at this time there is no question of deer parks, but only of sheep parks. This imparking meant

4 Blawith is bounded to N. by the Merebeck and Torverbeck, and includes Stable Harvey.

clearing, and such extensive clearing suggests charcoal burning and iron works on the spot.

What we know for certain is, that in early times the valley of Coniston was thickly wooded, but by the time of the dissolution of the monastery, High Furness, as Henry VIII's commissioners reported, had been nearly denuded.

V.—The Later Bloomeries.

After the dissolution of the monastery, the commissioners of Henry VIII let part of the woods of Furness Fells to William Sandys and John Sawrey, to maintain three smithies, or combined smelting and hammering works, for which the rent was £20. Less than thirty years later, in 1564-5, these were suppressed, because it was represented that the woods were being wasted, and the £20 rent was thenceforward paid to the lord of the manor by the customary tenants, as "bloomsmithy rent."

But the Furness ore had to be smelted somewhere, and Mr. James Kerr (*Trans. Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Chesh.*, 1872) has shown that it was taken to Rossendale, by boat to Preston and on packhorses for the rest of the way. No doubt this was merely an extension of the previous practice, by which it had been brought, on packhorses and boats, to the woods of Coniston. Mr. Ivison Macadam, F.S.A. Scot. (*Proc. S.A., Scot.*), shows also that a little later it was taken as far as the N.W. of Scotland, to supply bloomeries near Poolewe, where the slag is identical with Coniston slag.

But at the same time it was permitted to the tenants of High Furness to make iron for themselves with the loppings and underwood. Mr. Cowper has suggested (in the papers and book already referred to) that the little bloomeries are the result of this arrangement, and therefore dating from 1565 onward.

The later and larger bloomery at Coniston Forge, mentioned by the German miners, about 1650, as already in existence,[5] and by Sir Daniel Fleming, 25 years later,[6] is known to have continued in existence through the eighteenth century, in the middle of which it turned out 80 tons of iron yearly. It was much the smallest of the later bloomeries at work in High Furness, but was apparently much the earliest. I think it may have been established not long after the permission was given to the tenants in 1565, and it would suffice for their wants, without additional small hearths of a type then antiquated.

VI.—Various Forms of Bloomeries.

Some bloomeries have been found so placed that a natural draught of air blows through a ravine, or on an exposed site. We have one example to notice, that of Peel Island, which for many reasons seems to be the earliest in our series. The hand-blown furnace, described by Mungo Park and other travellers in Africa and Asia, needed a little more apparatus. It was a circular tower, 5 to 10 feet high and 3 to 7 or more feet in diameter, built of stone and clay, with its bottom concave and underground. It was filled with alternate layers of charcoal and broken ore, with a dry faggot at the bottom to start the fire. It was blown with bellows, forcing the air through clay tubes into the furnace, until the fire came out at the top; but by the third day of the operation the tubes were taken out, and the fire was allowed to die down. When the furnace was cool it was broken, and the bloom, about a hundredweight of iron, was found at the bottom. In some

5 Before the collapse of the German mining company, whose headquarters were at Keswick (see paper by the late J. Fisher Crosthwaite, F.S.A., in *Trans. C. & W. A. & A. Soc.*, vol. viii), they meant to set up a smelting-house at Coniston, because there was already the convenience of an iron forge there (West, *Ant. of Furness*, ed. i, from *Rydal MSS.*)

6 *Historical MSS. Commission*, xii Report, App. pt. 7, p. 386.

more advanced types there was an arrangement for letting the slag run off into a clay-lined pit, leaving the bloom of metal at the bottom of the furnace.

Of the still more advanced type, requiring water to help in the blowing, there were two kinds. One was the Catalan Forge, which is described as an arrangement for forcing air down a vertical pipe (represented by the down-stroke of a capital L) by the fall of water from a cistern *(a)* above. The down-rush sucks air into the pipe through holes in its sides, and carries it into a receiving-box *(b)*, from which the water flows by an escape at the bottom (*c*), while the air goes out through a small tube *(d)* at the top of the box, under pressure from the descending water.

It has been said that this form of furnace was used in our bloomeries, but there does not seem to be any good reason for thinking that an arrangement, which is rather complicated, was borrowed, when a little water-wheel, such as was well known and much used, would serve to work a pair of bellows. It is true that we have no trace of water-courses in the smaller bloomeries, though they are always by streams; and there are such traces in the later furnaces.[7] It is possible that wooden troughs were used to bring the water from the stream—very little water would suffice—and big nails have been found at Springs (described later) suggesting woodwork. All this, and the small wooden wheel, would entirely disappear when the place was ruined.

It is remarkable how many tiny streams were utilised hereabouts for a bloomery. The bigger rivers, subject to great rise and fall, would not be

7 Boyle's *Sceptical Chymist* (1661), speaking of iron smelting in charcoal furnaces, mentions "the Fire excited by vast Bellows, made to play by "great Wheels turn'd about by Water." In small Swedish ironworks, as it was pointed out by Mr. Ehrenborg, at the reading of this paper, a waterwheel works the hammer.

so easy to harness to rude and frail machinery, and they were only used later in the larger works; but I have found that search in a stream-bed sometimes reveals traces of a bloomery where none was known.

On Windermere, where there are also bloomeries, Hammerbank is the name of an estate owned by the landscape painter, Mr. Hubert Coutts, just above Millerground. With much good taste, he determined to keep the old name for his new house, and he asked me one day what I thought the name meant. I suggested his looking for slag-heaps of an ancient bloomery, but none were found. Once, waiting for a boat at Millerground, I searched up the beck: it was not long before I found slag, which showed that there must have been a bloomery hard by.

There may be other sites now covered with turf. On the old paved pack-horse road from Lady Hall on the Duddon, leading up the fell, is a curious ancient enclosure, with a tumulus in the middle of it. Digging in the tumulus I found masses of charcoal with lumps of iron, which Dr. J. B. Cohen, of the Yorkshire College, kindly analysed, and found to be nearly pure ferric hydrate, with a trace of manganese, and sand. It was probably a smithy for shoeing the pack-horses at this resting-place. There was a bloomery of the early rude type near Knott End farm, at the head of Whicham valley, on another paved road. At the head of Coniston Water I found a specimen of something—not exactly slag—which Dr. Cohen found to consist of about equal parts of charcoal, metallic iron, and sulphur, most of the latter in a free state.[8] This may have been casually dropped.

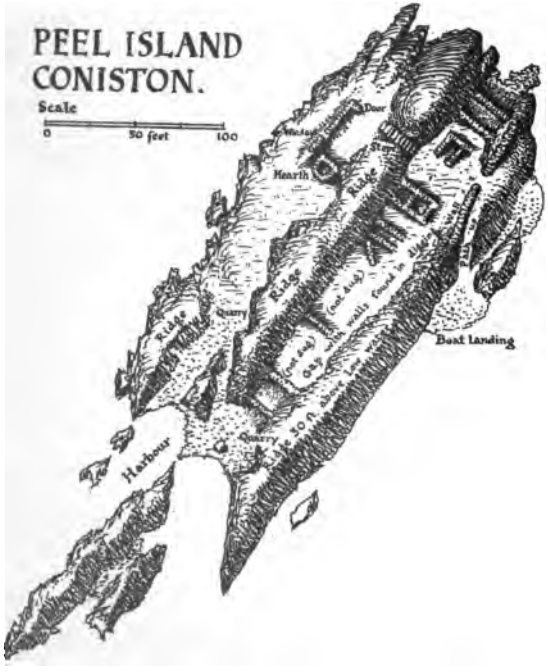
[8] The figures are, Iron (as metal) ..... 29·88 per cent.
Carbon (charcoal)..... 33·73 per cent.
Sulphur (mostly free) .. 30·00 per cent.
Remainder, moisture.

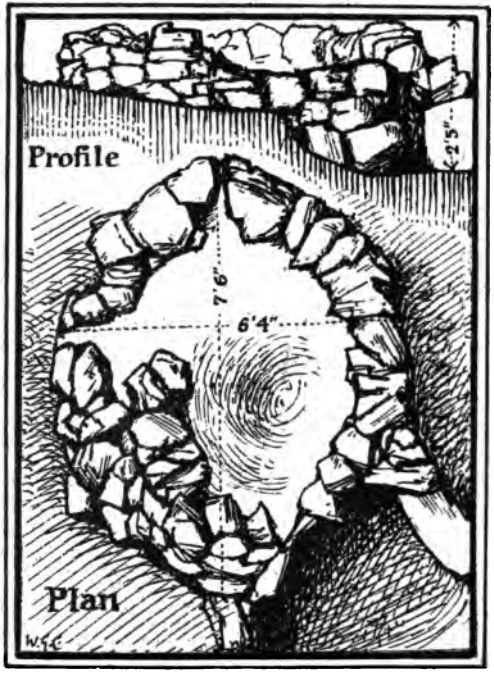
VII.—Springs Bloomery.

Though much had been said and written about the smaller bloomeries in these parts, none had been examined by digging, so far as I know, until 1897, when we excavated the Springs slag heap. Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A., kindly contributed to the expense, and visited the diggings on several occasions. He wrote a paper on the subject, already referred to, in *Trans. Cumb. and West. Ant. and Arch. Soc.*, vol. xv., followed by a paper I prepared independently.

The slag-heap stands near the shore, in a level ploughed field, and looks like a long barrow; it is made more conspicuous by a clump of trees growing upon it. The length is 115 feet, the breadth 69 feet, and we found that it had been raised on a slight elevation already existing: the slag was nowhere more than about 4 feet deep. Hoathwaite beck runs about 50 yards south of the mound, with no great volume or fall of water, but enough to turn a little wheel. On the bank of the stream, at the point nearest the bloomery, is a smaller heap of slag. A wall crosses it, so that we could not properly examine this smaller heap; but it seems likely that this was the first hearth, and as the ground was low-lying and in ancient days marshy, they would move to the higher and drier site for subsequent operations.

When they had used one hearth for some time they seem to have made another, and abandoned the first, throwing the slag and heaps of charcoal over the disused hearth. We did not clear the whole site, but found traces of four hearths, of which the latest, judging from the fact that it was covered only with earth and not with slag, is drawn in the plan and profile herewith. It is 7 feet 6 in. by 6 feet 4 in. in diameter, built of rough stones and packed with clay. There is a hole in the north





Remains of old Iron-furnace :
Springs Bloomery,
Coniston.

side for the blowpipe, and on the s.w. side a hole to let the molten slag run off into a lower hole, packed with clay, and confined by large stones forming divergent walls like the cheeks of an open fire-grate. This arrangement has been shewn in a Mashonaland bloomery, figured by Theodore Bent, in *Ruined Cities of Mashonaland.*

The mound was covered with turf, and earth had penetrated to the depth of 1 to 1½ feet, the slag underneath looking fresh and giving the impression of no great age. But it must be remembered that the earthing-up of remains in general is chiefly due to worms, and worms cannot easily get through 4 feet of hard slag. The earthing of this mound must be the work of blown dust and fallen leaves, so that ordinary rules hardly apply to indicate age.

The clay seems to have been got from pits in the Deerpark, locally said to be fish-ponds. This is a reason for believing the bloomery to be earlier than the park; for the clay could not have been dug while the park was in use, but the pits could have been made into ponds after they had been dug by the iron-workers.

The slag is of the sort common in early bloomeries. Most of it is heavy and black, but some red, and some with a coppery glance. As there might be a doubt whether this was iron slag, Dr. J. B. Cohen kindly analysed it, and gave as the result of four analyses:—

Silica	18·70
Ferrous oxide	55·60
Ferric oxide	25·50
Magnesia	00·18
	99·98

showing that it was a plain iron slag of the early type, which Mr. James Kerr said was identical with that of Rossendale.

There was also a small quantity of a curious purple dross, very light and porous, like that found on Peel Island, but not so often seen in bloomery mounds. Mr. Thomas Barlow-Massicks, the well-known iron-master, kindly analysed a specimen of this, and found a mere trace of iron, 0·041, which shows that it is not iron slag of the early bloomery type. He considered that it was calcined native rock or stone, having formed the hearth or part of a charcoal pit; and he quoted *Woodward on Fossils*, writing in 1729 on Veinstones, and speaking of specimens taken from fissures of rocks in Cumberland (Borrowdale) and Cornwall:—"A Pumice, "black, light, and porous—it looks exactly like a "Cynder or Scoria that has pass'd the Fire, and "on one side it has upon it a Crust that appears as "if 'twas vitrified."

Mr. Ivison Macadam says (in the paper quoted) that the slag from the Red Smiddy (where Furness ore was smelted in the seventeenth century, on the river Ewe, in Scotland) is open, porous, and light, containing magnesia and sulphur and lime, resembling the pumice-like slag of our bloomeries, and made from the same hematite. I think we are safe in regarding this dross as a by-product of the ancient smelting operations; perhaps from the flux.

Small bits of red hematite were found, with great quantities of charcoal made from small branches, also charcoal dust, screened off and lying apart from the larger charcoal. Also a nail and two bolt heads, which might have formed part of the apparatus; and a fragment of a quern (now in the Coniston Museum).

At Knapping Tree and Harrison Coppice are two furnaces still better preserved, though they may have been cleared out by some explorers unknown. They are round buildings, 9 feet across and about 3 feet high as they stand, made of small rough

stones which have been burnt. The other bloomeries have not been excavated, but present similar features, and seem to be all of this type, though they may have been worked at different periods.

VIII.—Peel Island.

The one site on Coniston Water which differs from these, and yet has been the site of ironworking, is Peel Island. The name, and an indistinct tradition that "armour was buried "there," led me to attempt its exploration. There was no external sign of remains. The island was well known as a most beautiful spot, and to disturb it was thought quite a sacrilege; but the results have added greatly to the interest of the place, and the kindly, though much abused, Coniston weather is now covering the diggings once more with ferns and bluebells.

The model—exhibited at the reading of this paper, and now in the Coniston Museum—shews the island as it would be without its trees. It covers about three-quarters of an acre, and the steep rock-ridges which form it rise about 30 feet from the mean water-level. Between the two main ridges the gap, about 170 feet long, and 18 to 20 feet above the water, and 33 feet wide in the middle, has been quite filled with buildings, and built up at each end with a double wall. Near the north end a flight of steps, partly built of large stones, and partly cut in the rock, leads over the ridge to a curious foundation, 30 feet by 15 feet in the middle, and made out of a little natural ravine by cutting out and building up. At its N.E. end has been a door, of which the long stone used for a lintel lies near it; on the N.W. side was a window, the lower part of which was cut out of the rock; on the S.E. side was a recess cut in the rock, with stones forming a seat; the floor was flagged; and

at the s.w. end was a curious building, of the shape of a capital D, 10 feet 7 inches by 7 feet, which once must have been of considerable height, to judge from the quantity of stones lying in and around it. The straight part of the wall was 2 feet 4 inches thick, the curved part 1 foot 6 inches. The stones for these buildings were got from two quarries, facing west, at the south end of the island, now vertical walls of rock, so lichened over and weathered that only an eye accustomed to the difference between natural and artificial forms of rock could tell them as quarries: but the masses of chipped stone lying beneath them prove the point. Every part of the island is built up in such a way as to suggest that it was intended as a rude fortress, and in early days it would be difficult to attack. There is no notice of it in any old records, but up to the thirteenth century there are no records of the neighbourhood; and it is quite possible that it was used before the days of the abbots' or barons' rule as the stronghold of some island settler.

In digging out the side building we found a bit of flint, a morsel of bone, an ancient key, and potsherds of a poorly made, wheel-turned ware, with a green glaze, which Chancellor Ferguson and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope classed as early mediæval; also slabs of gritstone, which Mr. J. G. Goodchild, of the Geological Survey, said very closely resembled the carboniferous grits of the country to the south of Furness, and certainly could not have come from any rock in the immediate neighbourhood. They seem to be fragments of large querns or millstones, hacked into oblong shapes for building purposes. We also found parts of one or more red sandstone mortars, well carved; and it is worth mentioning that Mr. H. S. Cowper possesses a gritstone mortar from Parkamoor,

which is about a mile distant on the hill above. A piece of ancient red brick, found in the digging, is very like a sample of Roman brick from Hardknott camp, but is probably mediæval; it must have been brought from Low Furness, as there is no red clay at Coniston. All these relics point to an inhabited site of the early middle ages.

But beside these, there were evidences of ironworking, though the place was not exactly like the sites already described. Scattered over the island, sometimes near the surface and sometimes at a depth of 18 inches, were lumps of porous dross, very light, and purple and yellow when broken, like that of which a few pieces were found at Springs; and there were great quantities of nails and bolts, rivets and lumps of iron, lying among burnt stones and blackened soil and fragments of charcoal. There was none of the heavy slag always seen in our bloomeries; but the D-shaped building in the little ravine, exposed to strong prevailing south-west winds, is very much of the type of the earliest furnaces already described, and it is difficult to see what other use can ever have been made of it. Charcoal might have been brought from the mainland, as well as ore, and the slag may have been thrown overboard, for the water is very deep all round the island, which is practically a rock pinnacle standing up in the bed of the lake, as Dr. H. R. Mill showed in his *Bathymetrical Survey of the English Lakes.*

This D-shaped building is not like the usual round furnaces; and the straight part of the wall—the chord of the arc—is far thicker and better built than the curved part. It may be that the original building was converted into a forge, and that this was done by simply building an addition to the cross wall, which made the end of the structure. In the gap between the great ridges

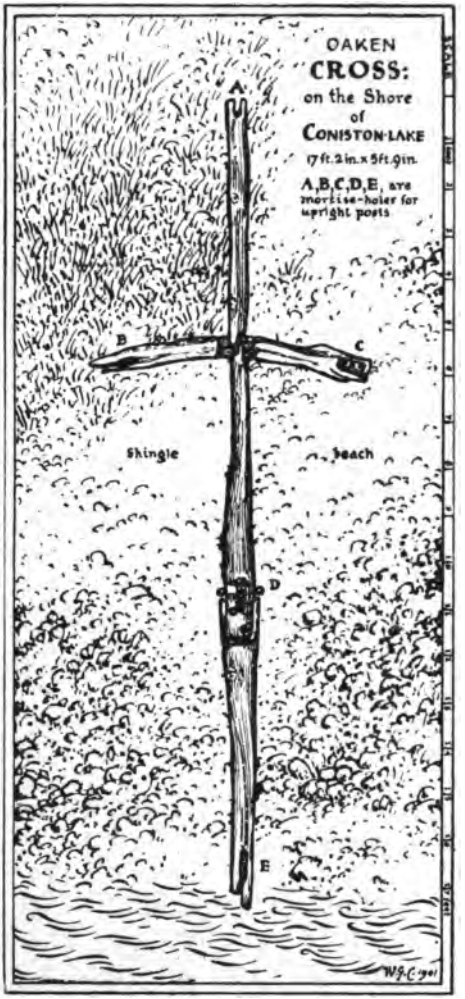
there were the same evidences of great heat, but no round furnaces and no heavy slag. It is possible that the burnt stone, blackened earth, and quantities of iron represent the burning down of a large wooden house, or series of houses; but that does not account for the purple dross everywhere found, like that of bloomeries. The conclusion is that there was a forge here, and that earlier still Peel Island was a rude fortress. The object of carrying on ironworks at the island may have been to get the advantage of the natural draught for the furnace; but it is possible also that, in an unsettled state of the country, it was desirable to protect the products of a valuable industry.[9] Scots raids never touched Coniston; but it was only when the rough *böndr* of the eleventh and twelfth centuries settled down into abbey and barony tenants, that it was safe for others than themselves to plant bloomeries in the wild woods of Furness Fells. A charter of John, afterwards King, quite at the end of the twelfth century (*Coucher Book*, p. 418), directs the removal of all tenants in Furness Fells who have not rendered due fealty to the Abbot—showing that even so late the descendants of the Vikings claimed independence.

IX.—The Oaken Cross.

One more antiquity of Coniston lake shore I venture to bring to your notice, as throwing a side-light on our subject. The late Dawson Herdson, an old resident of Monk Coniston, told me in 1897 that there was an ancient oaken cross lying on the shore at the end of a fence, between the Heald and Machell coppice, where the gate across the road used to be. It was shown him

9 The little island of Rampsholme, on Derwentwater, was also the site of a smelting forge, to judge from the slag found on the shore.

thirty years earlier by the old tenant of Parkamoor, who had known it for long before, and thought it marked the boundary of the Buccleugh and le Fleming fisheries; but, as Herdson said, both fishers used to "draw up" together at Cockshot, the nab next above Beckleven. Mr. Edward Wadham, of Millwood, agent to the Duke of Buccleugh, was so good as to search all the old documents relating to the manors of Coniston and Hawkshead, but could find no mention of any such cross as a boundary mark. He said that the site was at the boundary of Hawkshead Proper, in the manor of Hawkshead; but there could be no fishing boundary near there, because the le Flemings had no manor on that side of the lake, and the use and wont for "drawing up" would probably be a mutual arrangement of the fishers for their own convenience.



I found and dug out the cross in May, 1898. It

was between high and low water-mark on the shore, and covered with shingle. It had been made of sound oak logs, which might be any age; it was pegged together out of four pieces, and the whole fastened down into its place on the beach with wooden pegs, more than a foot long, driven into the clay beneath the shingle, as at D, where a withy has apparently been tied across from peg to peg; so that it could not have been a standing cross that had fallen. There were five mortise holes, A, B, C, D, E—each made by boring three auger holes, and then chopping out an oblong cavity—which must have held upright posts. Many have been the guesses as to the use of the structure: a boundary mark, a footing for a fence, a cradle for boat-building, etc.; but nothing has yet turned up to illustrate or explain it.

But the use of pegs was characteristic of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when iron and copper in manufactured form were dear in the dales. The old kists are pegged, and old doors and woodwork of seventeenth century houses; the old boats used to be built with wooden nails. I remember, thirty years ago, the last old boat of the sort on Windermere, which the fishers called "Miley Pegs," *i.e.*, the peg-built boat belonging to Miles somebody. In the middle ages, the Abbey supplied its tenants liberally with iron; later on, iron became less and less common, because it was manufactured by business men for the market, and sold at market prices; not made by the people for home consumption. Iron was used only when needed; not for nails, whenever wood might serve. No doubt, at all times pegs might be in use, but we have seen how in some old sites there are great quantities of nails, and in seventeenth and eighteenth century work they are less common; and this bears upon the question of the date of the smaller bloomeries.

X.—The Date of the Smaller Bloomeries.

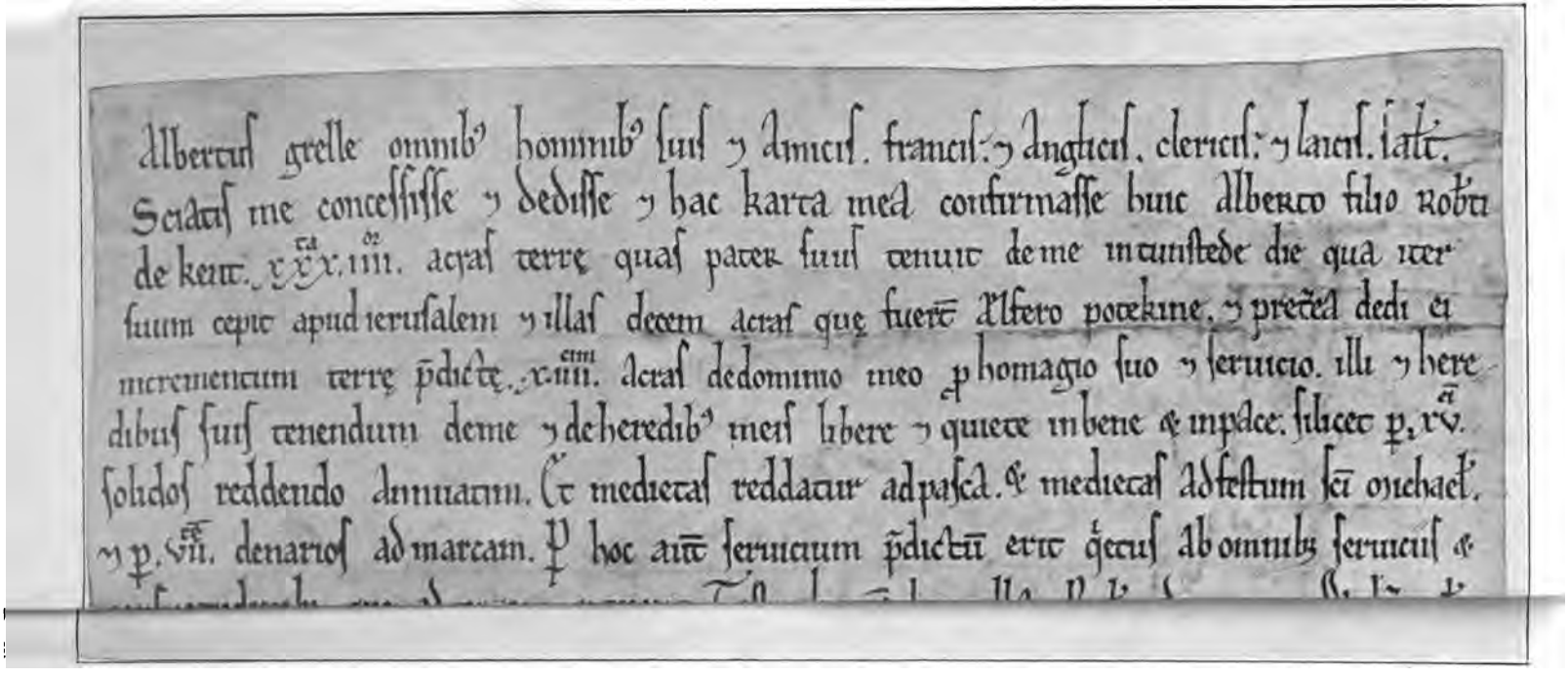
We have seen that there is no reason for calling these little hearths Roman; but we have found early mediæval pottery at Peel Island, along with the porous dross, rivets and nails, and querns or millstones, not unlike the fragments found at Springs. The free use of nails points to a period before the seventeenth century, and the complete absence of tradition or record of the small bloomeries—while Coniston Forge is mentioned—suggests that they were earlier.

Now, could they be Elizabethan? The Springs furnace is close to Coniston Hall deer-park, and the Waterpark furnace, which is another of the same type, is *in* the park. We know that it contained deer throughout the seventeenth century, and it probably existed under Elizabeth, when Squire William Fleming enlarged and adorned the hall—"a gentleman of great pomp and opu-"lence," West says. In 1516, Abbot Banks turned out tenants in Grizedale to make a deer-park, and earlier he had done likewise in Low Furness; so that in the beginning of the sixteenth century deer-parks were the fashion hereabouts. Coniston Hall was rebuilt under Sir Thomas, who died about 1481. Now, the Springs and Waterpark bloomeries cannot have been worked in or adjoining a deer preserve. I think the inference is that they were earlier, which puts them back to the beginning of the sixteenth century at the very latest.

All the evidence tends to show that these and other small bloomeries are of a mediæval type. Springs and Waterpark I should place earlier than the Hall deer-park. They must have belonged to the Flemings. The three in Torver were on land belonging, from 1334 onward, to the Harringtons, non-resident owners. Stable Harvey may be the result of Conishead Priory's work in Blawith,

starting from the grant in 1282. The three on the lake shore in Monk Coniston were in Furness Abbey lands, and I think we have reason for regarding them as the work of the monks between 1240—when they got leave to put boats on the lake—and 1536, when the Abbey was dissolved.

Compared with Rome or Olympia, Egypt and Crete, these poor little diggings yield such tiny results, that one is almost tempted to apologize for them; but they are not without value if they contribute a chapter to one of the greatest histories in the world: the History of Lancashire Industries.



CHARTER OF ALBERT GRELLEY, FOURTH BARON OF MANCHESTER, GRANTING LAND IN TUNSTEAD, CO. NORFOLK, TO ALBERT, SON OF ROBERT DE KENT, NEPHEW OF ROBERT DE BURON, *circa* 1175 (*vide* page 40)

THE BARONY OF GRELLEY.

By William Farrer.

Read 17th January, 1901.

AMONG the Norman followers of Count Roger, the Poitevin, the most important were Albert Greslet, Roger de Montbegon, and Warin Bussel; who, either in their persons or their descendants, represented the holders of three great Lancashire Baronies, namely, those of Manchester, Tottington and Hornby, and Penwortham. It is true that the early Constables of Chester, the Villers and Lacys, each held large baronies, but the two first seem rather to have been associated with the Earls of Chester than with the house of Montgomery, and, until the reign of Stephen, the connection of the house of Lacy with Lancashire continued only for the few years from 1088 to 1106. Of these six great families, we propose to give some account of the Greslets, having recently met with some new materials for the history of the family, which may prove to be of interest to the members of the Historic Society.

The name "Greslet" is probably a nickname, like Bussel, and seems to be the old French *greslet*, slim or deft; although it might mean something less pleasant, namely, pock-marked, from *greslé*, a word expressive of the similarity of this disfigurement to

anything which has been hailed upon, or marked by hail. (*Vide* Cotgrave, and Littré *in voce.*)

In the twelfth century the name became modified to Gredle, and in the thirteenth to Greilli or Grelley. It first appears in the Domesday survey—"Inter "Ripam et Mersham," where, in describing the Hundred of Blacheburn (pronounced Blakeburn), the record states that "Roger the Poitevin gave "the whole of this land to Roger de Busli and "Albert Greslet, and there are there [in 1086] so "many men who have 11½ ploughlands [of the "demesne] which the same [Roger and Albert] have "granted to be quit [of rent] for three years, and "therefore they are not now valued." This means that in 1086 Roger Busli and Albert Greslet were jointly possessed of Blackburn Hundred, and that the demesne lands were so impoverished of oxen and other stock that the tenants had them rent free for a term of three years, not then ended. The Survey also tells us that in 1086 Roger the Poitevin was no longer in possession of his Lancashire fief, and there is reason to believe that between that year and the accession of William Rufus, or perhaps immediately after that event, Busli and Greslet resigned Blackburn Hundred, so that this estate and the adjoining district of Bowland might be conferred upon Ilbert de Lacy, Baron of Pontefract, who, about the same time, received a part of Count Roger's forfeited estate in Craven. What Greslet received in exchange will presently be seen. In the year 1094, we find him attesting his chief lord's grant of lands, churches, and tithes in Lancashire and elsewhere to the Abbey of St. Martin of Sées, the much-favoured church of the house of Montgomery; in which grant occurs this important clause—that Earl Roger gave *inter alia* to God and St. Martin and the brethren at Sées, in alms for ever, "the tithes of the churches of all the land

"of Albert Greslet, and the tithe of Warin Boissel "at Preston, and the tithe of the land of Roger de "Montbegon at Kelesey and Tavelsby and Tite "(now Kelsey and Tealby and Tyd in Lincoln-"shire), and all his [*i.e.* Montbegon's] demesne "between Rible and Mersey, and four men of Ralf "Gernet in Suffolk."[1] Unfortunately these gifts did not all continue in force after the accession of Henry I, when Count Roger's English fief was finally forfeited, so that one cannot be sure which churches are here referred to; but it is highly probable that Albert Greslet's churches included Ashton-under-Lyne, Childwall, and Cotgrave—churches which are named in Count Roger's grant—with the church of Preston, and many others, and which were certainly in the possession of Albert's son, Robert, in the reign of Henry I, doubtless by restoration to Albert or his son, by that sovereign, after Count Roger's banishment in 1102.[2]

In this charter there is no reference to the church of Manchester, which is distinct evidence that Greslet had not received Manchester and the soke in the year 1094. Turning again to the Great Survey, we are told that in 1066 there were in the manor of Salford 3 hides and 12 ploughlands of waste land (*i.e.* land formerly rated to Danegeld as 12 ploughlands, but derelict or devoid of stock in 1066); in the manor of Radeclive one hide; and another hide belonging to Salford; that the churches of St. Mary [of Manchester] and St. Michael [of Ashton-under-Lyne, which belonged to the demesne of the Hundred], held in Mamecestre one ploughland quit of all custom except geld; also that there belonged to the manor or hundred 21 berewicks,

[1] *Calendar of Documents, France*, p. 236.

[2] *Register of Lancaster Priory*, p. 8. Ashton-under-Lyne is apparently to be identified with the Estanesberia of Count Roger's charter.

which 21 thanes held for 21 manors, in which were 11½ hides and 10½ ploughlands. Passing on to the year 1086, we are told that of this land these knights held by the gift of Roger the Poitevin—Nigel, 3 hides and half a ploughland; Warin, 2 ploughlands; another Warin, 1½ ploughland; Geoffrey, 1 ploughland; and Gamel, 2 ploughlands.

Of these estates the first is, without doubt, Manchester and the soke, and St. Mary's Church with the half ploughland belonging to it. The soke may have consisted of one hide in the vills of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Withington, Didsbury, and Rusholme; one hide in the vills of Crumpsall, Nuthurst, Moston, Goderwick, Ancoats, Newton, Bradford, and Clayton; and the remaining hide in Manchester, Ardwick, Openshaw, Gorton, and Denton. The question naturally arises, Who was Nigel who held Mamcester in 1086, apparently in 1094, and probably lost it upon the forfeiture of his chief lord in 1102? He cannot have been—as some have suggested—Nigel, the Earl of Chester's Constable, because Nigel died some years previous to the date of the survey, nor does his name appear there either under Halton or its members in Cheshire or Lancashire; but the name of his son William, or William fitz Nigel, does appear. After much consideration, the only suggestion that we can make, which must be taken *quantum valet*, is that he was Nigel de Stafford, the ancestor of the Gresleys of Derbyshire, a family having no known connection with the Grelleys, notwithstanding the similarity of the two surnames. As already stated, in a recent paper upon "the Domesday Survey "between the Ribble and Mersey," this Nigel held several estates of the Honour of Lancaster, of one of which (Thorp Constantine) he was deprived in 1086. He also held numerous other estates in the counties of Derby, Stafford, and Leicester, some

in chief and some as tenant of Henry de Ferrers, Richard Forestarius, the Bishop of Chester, and Ralph fitz Hubert; many of which he lost in the year 1102, when Count Roger and many of the old Conquest families were banished the kingdom, for openly assisting the King's rebellious son.[3]

Of the next two Domesday estates, one is almost certainly Ashton-under-Lyne, held by Warin Bussel, and under him by Albert Grelley, just as his descendants also held it afterwards of the barony of Penwortham. (See the Inquest of the co. Lanc., taken in 1212.) Of the remaining two, Geoffrey has not been identified, and Gamel was very likely the thane of that name who held Rochdale in 1066.

Albert Grelley again appears in the Domesday Survey as "Albertus homo Rogerii," under cos. Norfolk and Suffolk, in Spixworth, Coketeshala, Tunstead, Blakenham, and Willesham, all estates which his descendants held of the Honour of Lancaster. He may also be identified with the "Albertus," tenant in Haintone, co. Lincoln, of Count Roger in 1086, where also "Albertus" was tenant in the Lindsey Survey of 1114-16, though this entry probably relates to a period a little antecedent. Probably he also held in the same county Bloxholme, Bracebridge, and Canwick, estates which his descendants held of the Honour of Lancaster.

It is certain that Nigel did not retain possession of the manor of Manchester after the year 1102. It is also certain that Albert Grelley and Roger de Montbegon either took no part in the rebellion of that year, or were pardoned by the King, who from this time onward—the country over—commenced to re-group old fiefs, and out of the old order, by increasing the estates of the knightly families of

3 A full account of this Nigel and his descendants will be found in *Staffordshire Hist. Collections*, vol. i, n.s.

lower degree, to create a new and more loyal baronage. To this influence we may trace the creation of the barony of Manchester, and its bestowal upon Albert Grelley; an event shortly afterwards followed by the incorporation of Count Roger's forfeited estates, with the addition of other estates of banished feudatories, and a number of large manors of royal demesne, into the Honour of Lancaster, and its bestowal on the King's nephew, Stephen of Blois, afterwards King. This was about the period 1112 to 1114.

In the Inquest of county Lancaster, taken in 1212, we are told that the fees of Barton, Withington, and Pilkington were of *ancient feoffment;* and later, in the inquest of knights' fees (in Lancashire) chargeable to the aid to marry the King's sister to the Roman Emperor, taken in accordance with a writ directed to Simon de Thornton, the sheriff, about midsummer, 1236, it is recorded, that "Thomas Greyley holds 5½ knights' fees in Man-"chester, with the soke, of ancient feoffment," *i.e.* fees which had been created before the day on which King Henry I was alive and dead (Dec. 1st, 1135). It may therefore be considered, as certain as the nature of the circumstance permits, that the barony of Manchester was created soon after the year 1102, and bestowed upon a loyal knight in the person of Albert Grelley.[4]

4 The feudal service was 12 knights, distributed as follows:—

In co. Lancaster.		In co. Lincoln.	
Barton-cum-membris	1½ fee	Bloxholme	¾ fee
Withington (1 judge)	1 ,,	Swineshead	1 ,,
Worthington	½ ,,	Sixhills and Hainton	¼ ,,
Pilkington (1 judge)	¼ ,,	In co. Norfolk.	
Childwall, Aspull, Turton, Harwood & Brockholes	1 ,,	Tunstead	1 ,,
Dalton, Parbold & Wrightington	1 ,,	In co. Suffolk.	
Lostock and Rumworth	⅓ ,,	Risby	1 ,,
In co. Notts.		Willisham	1 ,,
Cotgreave	1 ,,	Little Blakenham	¼ ,,
		Almesburn	¼ ,,

Childwall, &c., and Lostock and Rumworth were not fees of "ancient "feoffment," but infeudations of the time of Henry II.

The Inquest of co. Lancaster of 1212 records the creation of one of these fees of ancient feoffment, which we may ascertain by a little genealogical knowledge and calculation to have been created between 1102 and *circa* 1110, by Albert Grelley, the Domesday tenant. The late Mr. Ormerod, the historian of Cheshire, in his anxiety to magnify the family of Lathom, by endeavouring to trace an early connection between that family and the Grelleys, fell into error about the date of this infeudation, and attributed it wrongly to Albert Grelley, the grandson of the first baron, viz., son of Robert, son of Albert *the first*. The record states that "Albert Gredle, *senex*, gave the fee of one knight "to Orm, son of Ailward, in marriage with Emma, "his daughter, to wit in Dolton, Parbold, and "Wrictinton,"[5] which the heirs of Orm held in 1212. And again, that "Albert Gredle *senior* (an "error for *senex*), gave to Orm, son of Eward "(Ailward), with his daughter Emma in marriage, "one ploughland in Eston (Ashton-under-Lyne) by "10*s.* per annum,"[6] which the heirs of Orm also held in 1212. The said Orm and Emma had issue a son Roger, to whom Albert Grelley II, the grandson of the grantor, confirmed "Haistune" (Ashton-under-Lyne) to be held of him, the said Roger, as he had held it of his father, *i.e.* of Robert Grelley, the second baron. This Roger, son of Orm, was living in the time of King Stephen, and had a son William, living in the reign of Henry II, and he in turn was father to another Roger, living from the latter part of the reign of Henry II to the end of King John's reign. He is mentioned in the Inquest of 1212 as "Roger son of William," the holder in thanage of one ploughland in Reddish, which Matthew de Reddish held under him. His son Alexander, generally

5 Inquest of co. Lancaster, A.D. 1212. *Testa de Nevill.*
6 *Ibidem.*

known as Alexander de Kirkby Ireleth, was one of the hostages found by Gilbert fitz Reinfred in 1216, when he bound himself to give a life-long allegiance to King John and his successor. He is also named in the *Testa de Nevill*, *circa* 1220, as Alexander de Kyrkeby (fol. 663). Being fourth in descent from Orm, it is obviously impossible that Orm and Emma could have been married so late as the time of Albert, the third baron, who flourished between 1150 and 1160, so that we may safely ascribe these two infeudations to Albert the first baron, and to a date within ten years after 1102. As it has been a matter of doubt as to whether the first Albert was ever possessed of the barony of Manchester, the writer begs the reader's indulgence for this long digression, necessary in order to remove this uncertainty.

In the possession of Ashton-under-Lyne, Brindle, Anderton, and Heaton-in-Lonsdale by the barons of Manchester, fees which were parcel of the barony of Penwortham, and were held by the Grelleys under the Bussels, we find distinct evidence of early infeudations made by Count Roger the Poitevin, in some cases *before*, and in others very soon *after* the date of the Domesday survey.

The next of the family and second baron was Robert, the son of Albert. In the Lindsey survey, made in 1114-16, we find him holding two small estates directly of the King. The entries may be translated thus—"Rodbert Greslet five oxgangs in "Neteltune of the King"; and "Rodbert Greslet "one carucate and four oxgangs and a half in Cal- "decote of the King."[7] Another entry, which seems to point to his father being still alive, to which we have already referred, runs—"The Count "of Mortain in Heintune three carucates, which "Albert holds."[8] This place included Sixhills.

7 *Lindsey Survey*, fac-simile edit., fol. 17, *l.* iv.; fol. 22, *l.* vii.
8 *Ibid.*, fol. 22, *l.* i.

A few years later, viz., in 1127, as Robert Greslat, he attests Earl Stephen's foundation charter of the Abbey of Furness. Perhaps we are not mistaken in recognising him again many years later, viz., in 1153-4, in William de Warren's charter, whereby the latter confirmed to the monks of Furness his father's charter of the foundation of their house. A filiation of this great Lancashire Abbey, and the second to spring from the original stock, was founded by Robert Grelley, upon his estate of Swineshead, in 1134; a deed of beneficence prompted, no doubt, by his allegiance to, and respect for, his chief lord, at that time still Count of Mortain, but within a year after about to commence his troubled occupancy of a usurped throne.

In the Pipe Roll of 31 Henry I, at Michaelmas, 1130, Serlo de Burg, sheriff of cos. Nottingham and Derby, renders account "of 13 marks of silver "for a plea which had been between him and "Robert Greslet."[9] In Lincolnshire, at the same term, "Robert Greslet renders account of 20 marks "of silver [which he had proffered] that the King "might help him against the Count of Mortain, "respecting a certain plea; and of 60 marks of "silver for the same agreement. Into the Treasury "16*li.* and 1 mark of silver. And he owes 55 "marks of silver and 1 mark of gold."[10]

By his charter, Robert Grilli, for the redemption of the souls of his father and mother, and deceased ancestors, also for his own soul and the soul of Matilda his wife and their children, and for the love of God, gave in perpetual alms to God and the brethren and nuns of St. Mary of Haverholm (in co. Lincoln) three acres by those ten acres which he had previously given for the accommodation of their buildings, together with common of pasture

9 *Pipe Roll of 31 Hen. I.* Record Com., p. 31.
10 *Ibid.*, p. 114.

of the whole town of Bloxham jointly with himself and his men, confirming this with the sign of the cross ✠. Witnesses, Albert Grilli my son, and Robert de Arches. [11]

In the earlier charter referred to, Robert Greslet, for the redemption of the souls of his father and mother, etc., and for the health of the souls of his wife Maud and their children, gave to the same convent a manse in his land of Bloxham, whereon to set their buildings, to wit, ten perches in width and five furlongs in length. Witnesses, Robert de Archis,[12] Roger de Matom, and Robert his brother.[13]

By his wife Maud, Robert Grelley had issue—Albert his son and heir, and other children whose names have not been preserved, unless Gilbert Grelli, who held land in Riskington (now Ryston), co. Suffolk, and whose name occurs in charters to Haverholm Priory, was one of them. He survived until *circa* 1154, and died in extreme old age.

An interesting story is told in Thomas of Monmouth's *Life and Miracles of St. William of Norwich*, of the wonderful cure of a falcon of Albert Gresle, in the year 1154.[14] The story runs as follows :—

Among so many eminent and mighty miracles, the power of God is sometimes apt to show itself forth greatly in the smallest things. Now Robert Gresle, a nobleman, had a son Albert, who, when a lad, possessed a falcon of which he was exceedingly fond: and one day it so happened that this bird fell sick, and the boy was as grieved for its mishap as if it had been his own. The bird seemed to be *in extremis*, and the boy betook

[11] *Lansd. MSS.*, 207 A, p. 207.

[12] Robert de Arches was pardoned 5*s.* of his quota to the Danegeld collected in Lincolnshire in 1130, in which year Roger de Mateom accounted in co. Norfolk for an amercement of 40*s.* laid upon him for a breach of the peace. Perhaps his father or brother occurs in an entry under Hampshire, recording that the sheriff had accounted at the Treasury for 10*li* of the ferm of Robert de Mateom's manor of Greteley. One is inclined to wonder if Robert de Bloxeham, who owed 10 marks the same year in Lincolnshire "for one Weregeld," is to be identified as Robert Greslet — (*Pipe Roll of 31 Hen. I*, pp. 104, 92, 40).

[13] *Ibid.*, p. 207.

[14] Cambridge University Press, pub. 1896. Book vi, No. 19, p. 258.

himself to the intercession of the blessed boy and martyr William, praying that by his kindness the dying falcon might be restored to health and life: he vowed, moreover, that if the saint would restore him his beloved bird, he would come to him every year with an offering in acknowledgment. His father meanwhile and the other knights who were present laughed at the boy as making a childish request, partly because they were sure that the bird would die directly, and partly because they deemed it ridiculous to pray to the saints or make vows to them for such trivial matters. Yet it came to pass that as the boy prayed with tears and sobs, contrary to the expectation of every one, the bird breathed again, and in a short space appeared well and sound. All marvelled at the sight, and glorified the Lord as being truly wonderful in his Holy ones: and they were alike surprised and grateful to the holy martyr of God, William, for sympathising in and caring for even the smallest matters. Now after this, I saw the boy come with his father to Norwich to pay his vow, and ascertained from them the facts as they happened. And when I had heard the story, I blessed in glorifying and glorified in blessing the glorious and merciful martyr of God, or rather in his martyr the Lord who crowns all martyrs, Who being Creator and Governor of all things, although He is great in great things, yet does not disdain at times to work in the smallest matters.

In or about the year 1154, Albert Grelley succeeded his father as third baron. Some years before, he had contracted a marriage which brought a great increase of property to the family. The lady was Maud, sister of William fitz William, Constable of Chester, who died childless, probably before the year 1150. Upon his death, Maud and her sister Agnes, who was the second wife of Eustace fitz John, Lord of Knaresborough, became co-parceners of the constableship, with the lordship of Halton and its member, the fee of Widnes, and large estates in various parts of England. Halton and Widnes and the constableship of Chester, with various estates in cos. Lincoln, Northampton, and Oxford, were the pourparty of Agnes, no doubt as elder sister, and her husband Eustace. The pourparty of Maud and Albert Grelley comprised the manor of Cuerdley in Lancashire, the manor of

Woodhead, including the vill of Casterton, in Rutland, the lordship of Pirton, *alias* Periton, in Oxfordshire, and 1½ and the third part of a knight's fee in Barnetby, Bigby, Somerby, Hainton, and Sixhills, in co. Lincoln, being the fees of the Constable of Chester in that county.[15]

[15] Periton was the name of a hundred, appurtenant to the great Honour of Wallingford, which was in the hands of the King at the date of Domesday. It was afterwards given to Earl Hugh of Chester. Under the title of "Berchescire," in the survey (fol. 56 b), and under a heading —"These under-written thanes of Oxenefordscire had land in Walinge-"ford," we read, "Earl Hugh [has] one house in Piritune, rendering "three shillings." The Earl afterwards gave the manor of Periton to his Constable, Nigel, who, for the soul of his wife, gave part of it to Westminster Abbey, as appears by the following writ of King Henry I, addressed to William fitz Nigel:—"Henry, King of the English, to "William, Constable of Chester, [sendeth] greeting. I command that "the Abbot and monks of Westminster do hold their land of Peritone, "which thy father gave in alms to that church for [the health of] his "wife's soul, as well and honourably, as freely and justly and as quit of "scutage and all secular customs as thy father first gave and granted it "to the same church, and as they afterwards held it well, and in the "time of Hugh, Earl of Chester. And hereafter let none do any wrong "to them or their possessions, but if hereafter anything of theirs be "taken, let it be rendered up, lest I hear [their] complaint thereupon. "And except ye do [this], Richard Basset [my Justiciar] shall cause it to "be done. Witness, the same Richard Basset, at Wdestok" (Woodstock). *(Ex autogr. in Archivo Eccles. Coll. Westmon.)*

By charter, which passed before the year 1117, William fitz Nigel founded a priory of Augustinian canons at Runcorn, and gave to it the church of Periton, and many estates in cos. Chester, Lincoln, and Leicester. In Lancashire, he gave "two oxgangs of land in Withnesse "[Widnes], with common right of the underwoods and feeding grounds "belonging to Appleton, to them and their men of, and dwelling in, "Withnesse." He also granted common right of the underwood and feeding grounds of Cuerdley, and two-thirds of the demesne tithes in Staining, in Amounderness, and the moiety of that town, to wit, three ploughlands, and two-thirds of the demesne tithes in Sutton, beyond Merce (*par.* Prescot), which Thurstan gave.—*Towneley's MS.* (Chetham Lib., C 8, 8.)

In the next reign, William fitz William removed the priory to Norton, giving that town in exchange for Runcorn and Staining, which latter he soon after bestowed upon Stanlaw Abbey. He likewise confirmed all other gifts which his father had made. The founder's successors also gave the moiety of the demesne tithes of Widnes, and two oxgangs of land in Torbock. All which estates were afterwards confirmed by King Henry II, in a charter which passed at Wallingford, about the 10th April, 1155. (*Monasticon*, vol. vi, p. 314.)

The *Hundred Rolls*, *s. t.*, Com. Oxon, thus refer to the grant of land in Periton:—"The Prior of Norton has the church of Pyriton *in proprios* "*usus* by the gift of the Constable of Chester, at that time lord of "Pyriton, called William fitz Nigel, which said church is endowed of "one messuage, 9 virgates of land, whereof the Prior holds in demesne

Sometime between 1153 and 1164, Albert Gresley granted to God and the Church of St. Bennet of Holme, in co. Norfolk, the whole claim and advowson which he and Walter (de Houton?) and his heirs had in the Church of St. Peter of Houeton, for the health of his soul, *and for the souls of his father Robert, and grandfather Albert*, together with all those parcels of land which the aforesaid Walter held of his fee by the Abbot's vivary, extending to Blakedam (Blackenham). For this grant and gift Abbot William, of the Church of St. Bennet, gave him ten marks of silver. Witnesses, Robert de Valeynes and others.[16]

Albert Gresley also gave the Church of St. Mary of Wilagesham (now Willisham, co. Suffolk), to Holy Trinity of Ipswich, as appears by King John's confirmation, dated 11th January, 1204.[17]

"2 virgates of land, and 4 acres of wood, without warren, for a park, "... nor does any service therefor, by reason that he holds in frank-"almoign, and by the lord Pope's confirmation."

The manor of Woodhead, in co. Rutland, will be referred to later, as we find no mention of it before the thirteenth century.

The three estates of Bigby, Somerby, and Barnetby le Wold, all in the wap. of Yarborough, in the parts of Lindsey, co. Lincoln, were held by Hugh, Earl of Chester, in 1086, "William, the man of Earl Hugh," *i.e.*, William fitz Nigel, holding half the town of Barnetby in demesne, the other half being soke in Barton-on-Humber, Bigby, Worlaby, Somerby, and Habrough. In the Lindsey survey of 1114-16, we find that Earl Richard had succeeded his father, Hugh, and "William, the Constable "of Chester, is his tenant," just as he was thirty years before, but Geoffrey fitz Pain is holding the soke above-named.

Thus we seem to have very clear evidence that these estates in Periton, co. Oxford, Woodhead, co. Rutland, in the Yarborough wapentake of Lindsey, together with the barony of Halton and fee of Widnes, and Staining in Amounderness, had been given by Earl Hugh Lupus—when he received his fief from the Conqueror—to his knight Nigel, whom he appointed his Constable of Chester.

16 Kuerden has preserved a brief abstract of a charter of Albert Gretle, son of Robert, releasing to the Abbot of St. Bennet of Holme all his right in the church of St. Peter of Houeton, which the said abbot had by the gift of Albert, his grandfather. About the same time, by charter addressed to William, Bishop of Norwich, he gave in frankalmoign to God and St. Bennet, and to Abbot William of Holme, all the land in Bertone which was of his fee and inheritance, which had long lain in dispute between the church of St. Bennet and his ancestors, begging the Bishop to confirm the same by his charter, which he accordingly did, as may be seen by reference thereto.—(*Cott. MSS.*, Galba E. 11, f. xxxiii.)

17 *Charter Rolls*, p. 116.

Except for the grant of the Mill at Mamcestre to the Abbey of Swineshead, by Robert Gresle, about 1134, we find little mention of the Lancashire possessions of this family until the reign of Henry II. The almost entire absence of infeudations, grants, or gifts in alms in the northern portion of the barony, may be explained by the fact that the Grelleys lived either at Tunstead in Norfolk, or Sixhills in Lincolnshire, and that after the conquest almost a whole century passed before there was much growth of status and condition among the tenants of Manchester and its members, calling for notice or deepening the lord's interest in his northern estates.

The Inquest of co. Lancaster of 1212 records the following grants made by Albert, the third baron, between 1154 and 1162 :—"Albert Gredle, "senior, gave to Wluric de Mamecestre 4 oxgangs "of land of his demesne for 5*s.* per annum," which his heirs held in 1212, and was, as we believe, the estate of Nuthurst in Moston. Wulric, the clerk, witnessed Albert Grelley's confirmation of Ashton-under-Lyne to Roger, son of Orm, son of Ailward, to which reference has been made. Most likely he was the holder of some important office in Manchester, possibly the Dean, and predecessor of Jordan, Dean in the latter half of the reign of Henry II. Further, "Albert Gredle gave 4 ox-"gangs of land of his demesne to the Church of "Mamecestre in alms." Dr. Hibbert-Ware surmised that this land comprised the parsonage land in Deansgate, but one would expect the ancient Saxon endowment to be there, near the Church, and so we prefer to believe that this was the more distant estate of Kirkman's Hulme. Lastly, "the "same Albert gave to Henry, son of Siward, one "ploughland in Flixton for 10*s*," which his heirs held with the church there in 1212. Henry was

father of Robert, the founder of Burscough priory, and ancestor of the ancient house of Lathom.

Albert Grelley II. had two, if not three, sons, viz., Albert III, his successor, Seifred, and Barnard (?), and two daughters, Amabel, the wife of Geoffrey de Tresgoz, and Agnes, who was twice married, firstly to Theobald Hautein, and secondly to . . . . de Amundevill. Seifred or Seffray is mentioned in a plea at Lincoln, in the 29th Henry III (1245), in which Thomas Gresley demanded against Ernise de Nevill, the manor of Grimsthorp as his right, whereof one Seffray, his ancestor, was seised in the time of King Henry [II], grandfather of the lord King, from which Seffray, because he died without issue, the right descended to one Albert Grelley, as brother and heir, and from Albert to Robert, as son and heir, and from Robert to this Thomas, who now demands, as son and heir. Subsequently they made an agreement, whereby Thomas Grelley released his right in consideration of forty marks, which Ernise gave him.[18]

Albert Grelley probably died in the year 1162, soon after attesting a noted agreement, made before the King, between William de Lancaster, Baron of Kendal, and the monks of Furness, touching the division of Furness fells. There does not appear to be any reference to his death in the Pipe Rolls, a consideration which leads to the belief that he died at least a year before the Honour of Lancaster was relinquished by Isabel de Warren, widow of William, count of Boulogne and Mortain, after her marriage to Hameline Plantagenet, and so passed into the King's hands at Michaelmas, 1164.

Albert Grelley, the fourth baron, son of Albert Grelley, *senior*, is generally described as *junior*, to distinguish him from his father. There is a charter

[18] *Assize Rolls*, No. 482, *m.* 18.

of his preserved in the Coucher of Whalley, of which the following is an abstract :—

To all the sons of holy mother church present and to come cleric and lay, Albert Grelli sends greeting. Know ye that I have granted and confirmed to William, the clerk of Eccles, the fourth part of the church of Eccles, of that share which was his father Haisolf's, and after the decease of Haisolf, his brother Matthew's; to hold during his life in pure alms for the soul of my father, and for my mother, and for myself and my wife and my children, and for the souls of all my ancestors. These being witnesses,—Richard the same Albert's chaplain, Gilbert chaplain, Robert chaplain of Mamecestre, Jurdan clerk of the same town, Ellis clerk of Eccles, Richard clerk of Lever, Robert de Biron, Hugh de Nevill, Urian Basset, Robert de Pontewyk, Lesyng de Lever, Walter de Herlas, Henry Hauteyn, Ralph de Roby, and William the clerk who wrote this charter.[19]

He made the following infeudations in his Manchester fee :—To Thomas de Pierpont 3 ploughlands in Rumworth and Lostock, for the service of the third part of a knight. To Robert de Bracebridge 2 oxgangs of his demesne land in Manchester for 4*s*. yearly service. To William le Norreys 2 ploughlands in Heton Norris for 10*s*. yearly service. To Alexander, son of Uvieth, 2 oxgangs in Little Lever for half a mark yearly service, and a goshawk or 12*d*. To Ellis de Pendlebury land called Slivehall for a goshawk yearly, or 12*d*. To Robert, son of Henry de Lathom, 2 oxgangs in Anlezargh by 3*s*. yearly service.

From the *Hundred Rolls*, co. Rutland, we find that in the year 1274, the inquisitors stated "that "Albrict (*lege* Albert) de Greyleye 60 years past "gave to the Abbot of Swineheved a water-corn-"mill and an oxgang of land, which were parcel of "the manor of Wodeford, which is held of the lord "King in chief." This refers to a grant made 90 years before the date of the enquiry, and proves

[19] *Whalley Coucher*, p. 40.

how little were the memories of country jurors to be relied upon.

Albert Grelley took to wife Isabel, daughter of Thomas Basset, an eminent justiciar in the reign of Henry II, who survived him.[20] For in the Pipe Roll of 28 Henry II, Maurice de Creon, in co. Lincoln, proffered a sum of 200 marks for having the wife, who was Albert Gresle's, with her reasonable dower, and afterwards married her to his son and heir, Guy de Creon, who after his father's death, in 1 Richard I, rendered account of 11 marks balance of the above sum of 200 marks then remaining unpaid. By his said wife, Albert Grelley had issue, Robert, his son and heir, and three daughters.

An interesting roll in the Record Office, of the date 31 Henry II, 1184-5, contains many details of the administration of the Grelley estates after the death of Albert in 1179-80, from which it appears that Thomas Basset, the father-in-law of Albert, had the guardianship of the land and the heirs for the first year of the minority until his death, when Gilbert Basset his son continued in the guardianship. About 1182, the manor of Swineshead was delivered to Nigel son of Alexander, sheriff of Lincolnshire, and Robert de Buron, by the King's precept, to hold at a rent of 20*li.* yearly. They also held Sixhills for 15*li.* rent, and the vill of Tunstead for 20*li.* yearly. In 2 Richard I, Gilbert Basset and his brothers, Alan and Thomas, rendered account at the Treasury of 550 marks, for the custody of Albert Grelley's son with his inheritance and land.

About 1175, Albert Grelley had entered into an agreement with the nuns of Haverholm to permit them to keep nine scores of sheep in the fields of Bloxham, his father-in-law Thomas Basset being

[20] *Hundred Rolls*, vol. ii, p. 53.

party to a similar agreement, ratified before the Justices of assize at Lincoln. After Albert's death, Guy de Creon, who had married his widow, confirmed these agreements.[21]

Robert Grelley, the fifth baron, son and heir of Albert, succeeded to his father's estates in 6 Richard I, (1194-5) after attaining his majority. In 33 Henry II, 1186-7, the Sheriff of Lancaster discharged himself of 12*li.* "in the fee of Albert Grethle," for the quota from twelve knights' fees, due for the scutage of Galwey, for which an account was to be rendered by his heir. Again, in 1 Richard I, in co. Lancaster, the Sheriff owed a sum of 5*s.* 4*d.* of the common amercement of the whole county, for concealment of pleas of the Crown, which sum was to be requisitioned from the demesne of Albert Gresle. In Norfolk and Suffolk the men of Tunsted, which was Aubert Gresle's, owed 2½ marks towards the tallage charged upon the royal demesne, and upon lands which were at that time in the King's hand. From these entries it is evident that the heir had not yet had livery of his estates, but between Michaelmas, 1189, and the same feast in 1194, he obtained possession, as appears from the fact that the quota of 12*li.* from 12 knights' fees was pardoned to Robert Gresle at Michaelmas, 1194, by the King's writ, because the sheriff, Theobald Walter, sent word that his knights had gone away with the King into Normandy, which was likewise the case in the other scutages of this reign.

While recently searching in the Record Office, the writer found three interesting charters of this period, with seals attached. The first is a beautifully-written charter of Albert Greilley, the fourth baron, of a date about 1175, being a grant to Albert, son of Robert de Kent, "of land which his

[21] *Lansd. MSS.*, 207 A, p. 207.

SEAL OF ROBERT GRELLEY, FIFTH BARON OF MANCHESTER
circa 1200 (*vide* page 41)

SEAL OF ROBERT DE BURON, OR BYRON, LORD OF CLAYTON, NEAR MANCHESTER, *circa* 1200 (*vide* page 41)

"father held of me in Tunstede on the day on "which he took his way to Jerusalem." The seal bears an equestrian figure of a knight nolding his sword in the right, and shield in the left hand. The circumscription is partially legible—SIGILLUM ALBERTI GRELLE.

The second charter begins, "Robert Gretlei to "all his men, clergy and lay, French and English, "both present and to come, and also their friends, "sendeth greeting." By which he granted to Robert de Buron and his heirs land in Tonstide, which his brother, Robert de Kent, formerly held, "and two oxgangs of land in Failesworth (in the "parish of Manchester) with its appurtenances, "and I have released the rent of those lands to "make up the service of half a knight's fee, toge-"ther with the land which he holds of me in "Claiton (near Manchester) and in Bernetebi (in "Lincolnshire) saving the advowson of the church "of Bernetebi." This was duly attested by his uncle, Seifred Grellei, Hugh de Wiketoft, and the following Lancashire retainers:—Roger de Middleton, Robert the chaplain, Jordan the chaplain, Richard de Wirkesle, William de Bracebrigge, Richard de Perepont, John de Barton, Thomas de Barton, Robert de Casterton (of co. Rutland), Henry de Trafford, William de Winequic, Godfrey the cook, Gilbert Buzcel, Hugh the writer of the charter and many others. The seal is a fine one, bearing the equestrian figure of a knight, similar to the last, but the escutcheon, with the field fretty as a sign of nobility, is clearly discernible, also the circumscription—SIGILLVM ROBERTI GRELLEI.

The third charter is a release from Robert de Buron to Robert Gredle, his lord, for the sake of peace and the fulfilment of the agreement made between them, of the whole of the land which he held of him in the vill of Tonstide, which his brother

Robert de Kent, and the latter's son Albert, held of him and his father. The witnesses were Lancashire men, except one or perhaps two :—Roger de Midelton, Matthew son of William (de Hathersage), Richard son of Ellis (de Pendlebury), Geoffrey dean of Mamecestre, Richard son of Henry, Richard de Perepont, Alexander de Pilkinton, Jordan le Norreys (of Heaton,) Theobald Hautein, Hugh the clerk, who evidently wrote the charter, and many others. The seal is much worn, but seems to bear an eagle's head with open beak. The circumscription may be easily conjectured.

In Mid Lent, 1196, Robert Greslai was engaged in litigation in the King's court in two suits, one against the prior of Newstede in Ancolm, co. Lincoln,[22] for impeding the appointment of a parson to the church of Barnetby le Wold, and the other against the prior of Norwich and Peter Bardolf for delaying the appointment of a parson to the churches of St. Saviour of Norwich and St. Fabian of the same town. In both cases the other side failed to make appearances, and were put to pledge and sureties by the court to appear in three weeks from Easter to answer Robert Grelli.[23]

His marriage is recorded in the following entry in the *Testa de Nevill.* "The soke of Lovell of Wer-
"lingham and Weston (co. Suffolk)—This the lord
"King Henry the first *(sic)* gave to William Luvel;
"and William de Longchamp, at the time he was
"Chancellor (*i.e.*, 1189), bought it from the said
"William Luvel, and gave it to Henry de Long-
"champ his brother, who gave it to Robert Gresle
"in marriage with his daughter, and he now holds
"it (*i.e.*, in 1212), but it is not known by what

22 I take this to be the house in question, and not Newstead, coun Leicester, because the church of Barnetby-le-Wold was afterwards appropriated to the former house.

23 *Rot. Curiæ Regis*, Pipe Roll Soc., vol. xxiv, pp. 226, 227.

"service. It was a member of Mutford." [24] The lady's name was Margery (or Alice).

On Dec. 5th, 1203, Richard de Wilek had letters patent from the King at Barfleur, commanding him to deliver to Robert de Greley, the widow and sons of William de Longchamp, to conduct them with the King to England.[25] On Nov. 3rd, 1203, the King at Clarendon sent his letters patent to Ranulf, Earl of Chester, Roger de Munbegon, Robert de Greidley, and William le Boteler, begging them to give the aid of their men of co. Lancaster in the work upon the ditches of the royal castle of Lancaster, which the King was greatly enlarging and strengthening. This he did not ask for by custom, but this time by grace only.[26]

On 5th April, 1208, the King pardoned Robert Gresley 30 marks, due for an amercement of *novel disseisin* in England, incurred in giving his sister in marriage.[27]

In June, 1215, he had a warrant for delivery of six harts, to be taken in the royal forest of Clive; but afterwards, becoming a prominent member of the Barons' party, the King seized his estates, giving Periton in Oxfordshire to Ralph Gernon, by writ to the sheriff, dated at Guildford (?), 10th December, 1215. In the next reign his Lincolnshire lands were given to William Marshall, the younger, for his maintenance in the King's service (13th June, 1217), as also were other lands of his to Hugh de Vivonia (29th June). On the 7th Feb., 1216, King John sent his letters patent to the sheriff of Lancaster, Gilbert fitz Reinfred, commanding

[24] *Testa de Nevill*, vol. i, fol. 346. In Easter Term, 1 John, at Nottingham, Robert Grelle complained against the Sheriff of Rutland for detention of cattle distrained from Robert's manor of Woodhead.—*(Rotuli Curiæ Regis*, vol. ii, pp. 160, 184).

[25] *Patent Roll*, Record Com., p. 37.

[26] *Ibid.*, p. 87.

[27] *Close Roll*, Record Com., p. 108.

him to give seisin "to our beloved and faithful "Adam de Yeland, of the castle of Robert Gresle "of Mamecestre with all its appurtenances and all "the land of the same Robert which he had within "the Lyme" (*i.e.*, in co. Lancaster) "to have so "long as it shall please us. And therefore we "command you to cause seisin of the aforesaid "castle with the appurtenances and of the said "land within the Lyme to be had fully to the same "Adam, to whom the King had committed the "same."[28] On the 3rd June, the sheriff of Lincoln had a warrant not to exact castleguard rent from Adam de Yeland, which the sheriff was demanding for the lands of Robert Gresle, which the King had given to Adam while he was in the King's service and in attendance upon him.[29] Although his lands had been seized by King John, Robert was at liberty, for he had letters patent of safe conduct from the King at Pontefract, on the 3rd January, 1216, to continue in force for three weeks from the Circumcision of our Lord; and again for eight days from Sunday next before the feast of St. Gregory.[30]

From London, on Oct. 30th, 1217, King Henry III. directed the sheriffs of Oxford, Lincoln, and Rutland, without delay to restore the like seisin to Robert Greile as he had on the day on which he withdrew from fealty and service of King John, because he had returned to the King's fealty and service.[31] On the same day, the same sheriffs and that of Lancaster were directed to distrain Robert Gresle to render scutage, which had been granted by the common council of the kingdom, at the rate of two marks on each fee, payable half at

28 *Patent Roll*, p. 165.
29 *Close Rolls*, p. 274.
30 *Patent Rolls*, pp. 162b, 169.
31 *Close Rolls*, p. 337.

St. Andrew in the second year, and the remainder at St. Hilary following.[32]

On Sept. 3rd, 1199, Robert Greille was at Rouen, and on Oct. 9th at Chinon, in the King's retinue, and again, on Aug. 23rd, at Worcester. Most interesting of all, however, is the recorded fact that on 20th June, 1215, he was at Runimede, between Windsor and Staines, in the King's company, five days after the date of Magna Charta.[33]

In A.D. 1215, Pope Innocent issued sentences of excommunication and interdict upon certain barons and others, to be published in the churches of the kingdom of England, and solemnly renewed each Sunday and fast day. Among the names of the barons appears that of R. de Gressei.[34] The year following, Geoffrey de Ferland certified the King of the names of those who had borne arms against him in his bailiwick in the cos. of Rutland and Leicester. Among those in the former county appeared the name of Robert de Gretley.[35]

Lastly, he was in King Henry's retinue at Bedford, on Friday next before St. John the Baptist, in the 8th year, together with John de Lacy, constable of Chester, for which the King sent his mandate, dated at Bedford, 22nd June that year (1224), to the keeper of the Honour of Lancaster, that he should not exact the castle-guard due from them at that date in Lancaster Castle.[36]

On June 29th, 1226, the King directed the sheriff of Lincoln to elect a new jury in a plea of *novel disseisin*, arraigned by Robert Gresley and the Abbot of Swinesheved against Thomas de Muleton, because, on the complaint of the last-named, men had been chosen on the former jury who lived very

32 *Ibid.*, p. 357.
33 *Charter Rolls, temp.* John, *passim.*
34 Math. Paris.
35 Rymer's *Fœdera*, edit. 1816, vol. i, p. 144.
36 *Close Rolls*, p. 606.

remote, and did not know the usages and customs of those parts where the disseisin was made.[37]

He is found engaged in numerous pleas in the King's court during the reigns of King John and Henry III. In the first year of the former reign he was suing Hamon de Mascy for trespass. The sheriff could not find Hamon, and was ordered by the court to seize his Lancashire lands and keep them, with the chattels found thereon, until otherwise directed.[38] At Midsummer, 2 John, Robert Gretlei was suing Hugh Bussell in a plea of land.[39] In Trinity Term, 5 John, Robert Gredle puts in his place Albert de Nevill, or Theobald Hautein against Richard de Pierpont[40] in a plea of wood. In Michaelmas Term the latter essoined himself *de malo lecti*, and the four knights who ought to have viewed his infirmity did not come to the court to report thereon. They were Robert son of Thore, Madoc de Haleton (Aughton), Robert Gogard, and Adam de Edelinton (Adlington), who were summoned to appear in Hilary Term.[41] Subsequently, the defendant Pierpont was pledged to sue in a plea of grand assize in the Quindene of Easter, 6 John, by the surety of Adam de Euckeston. The four knights appointed to elect the grand assize were Ranulf son of Roger, Roger de Middelton, Richard de Wirkedesle, and William de Turton.[42] Subsequently, viz., on October 20th, 7 John (1205), at the Exchequer in London, Richard Pierpont acknowledged that 40 acres of wood in Lostok and Rumworth were the right of Robert Gresley, and rendered them to him, for which Robert gave him a gold ring.[43]

37 *Ibid.*, vol. ii, p. 124.
38 *Curia Regis Rolls*, No. 21, *m.* 13.
39 *Ibid.*, No. 24, *m.* 5 *d.*
40 *Curia Regis Roll*, No. 31, *m.*
41 *Ibid.*, No. 32, *m.*
42 *Ibid.*, No. 34.
43 *Lanc. Final Concords*, 7 John, No 40.

In Michaelmas Term, 10 John, Robert Gresle was suing Richard, son of Robert de Allerton, in a plea of land, but the hearing was postponed to Hilary Term because the writ did not come.[44] On April 12th following, at York, the defendant—from whom Robert was claiming customs and services due from the tenement which defendant held of him in Allerton—released the tenement to Robert in consideration of the sum of 40*s*.[45]

On the feast of St. Edward, 5 Henry III, (1221) Robert de Greiley was suing Thomas de Burnhull, Adam de Radeclive,[46] Alexander de Harwude, and Thomas de Wurthington for suit of court to be done every fortnight at his court of Mamecestre for the lands which they held of him in Brunhill (Brindle), Leovre (Lever), Harwude, and Wurthington, and other services, where they claimed that the suit of court was due only from month to month. On Jan. 20th, 11 Henry III (1227), or six years after the commencement of the plea, the defendants acknowledged that they and their heirs would do suit at Robert's court of Mamecestre from three weeks to three weeks, or every fortnight at pleas held by the King's writ, and at the judgment of thieves.[47]

A very full account of Robert Grelley's Lancashire estates is given in the Inquest of co. Lancaster, taken in the year 1212, and preserved in the *Testa de Nevill*. On fol. 839 of vol. ii, the MS. records that "Robert Gresle [holds] xij knights' [fees] within "the Lyme and without, of which Matthew son of "William [Hathersage] and Roger [his brother] hold "one in Withinton, and from ancient time ought to "find one judge (or doomsman) for the lord King;

44 *Curia Regis Roll*, No. 62, *m*. 5.
45 *Lanc. Final Concords*, 10 John, No. 59.
46 *Curia Regis Roll*, No. 78, *mm*, 4*d* and 14.
47 *Lanc. Final Concords*, 11 Henry III, No. 13.

"Gilbert de Notton one and a half [knight's fee]; "Thomas de Worthinton a half; Richard son of "Robert 5½ ploughlands in Childewell, Aspul, Tur- "ton, Brokhul, where 6½ make a knight; Roger de "Samlesbure and Alexander [de Harwood] hold "the sixth ploughland in Harewode; the heirs of "Orm son of Ailward one knight in Dalton, Pare- "bold and Wrictinton; Alexander de Pilkinton the "fourth part [of a knight's fee] and one judge; "Thomas de Perpont the third part in Rumworth "and Lestock; Robert de Burun a half [knight's "fee] and 14 oxgangs of Mamecestre [demesne "in Clayton and Failsworth]." This last fee was an estate which Robert Grelley had himself given to Robert de Buron, senior, confirmed in the second of the three charters referred to on p. 41, which fee the heirs of Buron held in 1212.[48]

Another feoffment of this period was that of two oxgangs of the Manchester demesne in Ancoats to Ralph de Anecote, for the yearly service of 6*s.* 8*d.* A copy of the original charter has been preserved and is given below.

Sciant omnes tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Robertus Gredeley dedi, concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Radulpho de Anecotes pro homagio et servicio suo totam terram de Anecotes sibi et heredibus suis, Tenendam et Habendam de me et meis heredibus liberè et quietè, pacificè et honorificè, in feodo et hereditate, in bosco, in plano, in aquis, in pratis et in pasturis, cum communi pastura et omnibus asiamentis ville de Mancestria, et omnibus dominicis ueis pertinentibus. Preterea dedi ei et concessi exitum vie ultra Stamford versus Greene-lane, Redendo inde annuatim ille et heredes sui mihi et heredibus meis dimidiam marcam argenti ad quatuor terminos, scilicet ad Natale domini viginti denarios et ad medium quadragessime viginti denarios et ad festum S^ti^ Johannis babtiste viginti denarios et ad festum S^ti^ Michaelis Archangeli viginti denarios pro omni servitio et exactione et consuetudine et demandis. [Hanc terram] cum predictis libertatibus predicto Radulpho et heredibus suis Contra omnes homines et omnes mulieres

[48] *Testa de Nevill*, ii, fol, 823.

warantizabo imperpetuum.] Hiis testibus, Roberto de Buron de Clayton, Roberto filio Henrici, Matheo filio Willelmi, Rogero de Midleton, Gospatric de Chorleton, Orm de Astun, Asce clerico, carte compositore et multis aliis.[49]

Another feoffment is thus recorded in the *Testa de Nevill*:—"Robert Gredle who now is (*i.e.*, in "1212) gave to Asce the clerk a parcel of land of "his Mamecestre demesne for 3 shillings. The "same Asce holds that land.[50]

On August 11th, 6 Henry III (1222), Robert Greslei proffered a palfrey for a fair every year at his manor of Mamecestre, to last two days, viz., on the eve and on the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, until the King's full age, the sheriff being commanded to take securities for payment.[51] Subsequently, at Michaelmas, the said Robert rendered account of 5 marks and a palfrey "for a fair until "the lord King's full age, at Mammecestre."[52] By charter, which passed at Faringdon, 19th Aug., 11th year (1227), the King confirmed to Robert Greslay the grant of a fair at his manor of Mamecastre, further granting that it should last three days, viz., on the eve, the feast, and the morrow of St. Matthew the Apostle.[53]

On February 11th, 1225, Robert Grelli was a witness to the confirmation of Magna Charta, by Henry III. at Westminster.[54]

By writ of privy seal, tested by the Bishop Carlisle at Westminster, December 20th, 1230, the sheriff of Lincoln was certified that "Robert Gresle, "who held of the King in chief is dead," and that he should take all the lands which the said Robert had held in his bailiwick into the King's hand, and

49 *Black Book of Clayton*,
50 *Testa de Nevill*, ii, fol, 824.
51 *Fine Roll*, 6 Henry III, *m* 3.
52 *Pipe Roll*, 6 Henry III, Lanc.
53 *Charter Roll*, 11 Henry III, *m* 4
54 Rog. de Wendover, Rolls Series, 34, ii, p. 114.

safely guard the same that nothing be removed thence until the King order otherwise.[55] The same mandate was also sent to the sheriffs of Lancaster and York. Under the same date a mandate was sent to the sheriffs of Norfolk and Suffolk, and of Lancaster, that the Abbot of Vaudey and the other executors of the will of Robert Gresle were mainprised of the chattels which had belonged to the said Robert, to answer to the King for the debts which Robert owed him, and that they should not set their hands upon his chattels in their bailiwicks, and if they had taken anything after his death to render it to the executors.[56]

There are grounds for believing that Robert de Buron married one of Robert Grelley's sisters, although no record actually testifies to such a fact. Perhaps the strongest evidence is the use, by the Byron family, of arms differing only in the tinctures from those of Grelley. So far as the writer's knowledge extends, there is no evidence that either of the other sisters had issue.

On January 3rd, 1231, the King having received the homage of Thomas Gredle, son and heir of Robert, commanded the sheriff of Lancaster to give him livery of his inheritance, and also to diligently enquire, by true and liege men of his county, how much land the said Robert held of the King in chief in his bailiwick, by what service, and whether in chief as of the Crown, or as of the Honour of Lancaster as of the King's escheat. The same writ was also directed to the sheriffs of Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Oxford.[57] Unfortunately the inquests returned in response to these writs have not been preserved.

55 *Fine Roll*, 15 Henry III, *m* 8.

56 *Ibid.*, *m* 8.

57 *Ibid.*, *m* 7.

In 27 Henry III (1243), Thomas Grelley proffered a fine of 100 marks to be excused from accompanying the King to France; but afterwards the King excused the fine, by writ dated Oct. 18th, because Thomas had in the meantime come into Gascony in the King's service.[58] On the 18th June the same year, he had acquittance of ward of Lancaster Castle, being in foreign parts in the King's service.[59] On August 13th, 28 Henry III (1244), he had a like acquittance "since the time he came "to the King's service towards the parts of Scot-"land."[60] On October 13th, 1245, the King sent his mandate to the Justiciar of Chester to deliver 5 bucks and 15 does alive out of the park of Macclesfield to Thomas Grelley, wherewith to stock his park of Manchester, by the King's gift. He obtained a charter of free warren within his manor of Manchester in July, 1249.

We propose to add only a few more items with reference to Thomas Grelley, so much having already appeared in works of local history. The following reference is more remarkable for ingenuity than trustworthiness. Dr. Hibbert Ware, at p. 59 of the *Ancient Parish Church of Manchester*, falls into a strange error. He says—"Henry the Third, in consequence of his expensive "wars in Gascony, etc., was compelled to seek an "aid from parliament, which in the outset was "resisted, when many forfeitures of lands ensued. "It is to this cause that we must attribute the "escheat which took place of the lands of Man-"chester and Horwich forest." Then quoting the Calendar of *Inquisitiones post mortem*, viz., 38 Henry III, No. 10—"Thomas Grelle, Manchestre,

58 *Close Roll*, No. 56, *m* 2.
59 *Ibid.*, *m* 7.
60 *Ibid.*, No. 58, *m* 4.

"Horewych forest, land in co. Lancaster," he adds, "Subsequently, etc., we find Thos. Greslet in re-"possession of his estates, although the escheat "does not seem to have been formally rescinded." When the inquest is examined, the learned Doctor's inability to discover any formal restitution becomes apparent. The writ and inquest are as follows :—

Writ dated at Oxford, 20th July, 38th year, directed to the Sheriff of Lancaster, to enquire who they were, who with dogs, bows and crossbows entered Thomas Grelle's parks in Mamecestre, and his forest of Horewych, and the [game] therein did take and carry away without his licence, likewise seizing the said Thomas Grelle's forester of Horewych, and him abducting contrary to the King's peace.

Inquisition made according to the King's precept, by the oath of Elias de Tonge, Robert de Burum, William le Norresse, Thomas de Perpund, Geoffrey de Worketley, Roger de Penilbury, Peter de Burnul, Roger de Bothelton, John de Cophull, Robert de Eston, Hugh de Longeworthe, Hugh Gogard, Ranulph de Bothelton, Richard de Adelinton, and Adam de Dokesbury, who say that on a certain Saturday, in the market place of Mamecestre, Thomas de Gretley's bailiff heard by men coming to market, that they had heard dogs in the Park; the bailiff proceeded to the Park and found a harrier *(leporarius)* belonging to Geoffrey de Chetham herding a number of the wild animals there *(insulantem quandam partem Bestiarum)* and thereupon he did as he wished *(fecit quod voluerit)*. They also say that Alikco son of Augustin, Maikoc de Heeton, Dobbe de Heeton, William de Knolles, Alexander Lees, Richard son of Haye, Thomas son of Kansfrit, Namme de Blakerode are transgressors in Horewiche forest, but they do not know that anyone seized Thomas [Grelley's] forester and carried him away.[61]

Thomas Grelley is frequently mentioned in the public records as attending upon his Sovereign, and performing military service with his knights. We also find him frequently engaged in prosecuting pleas against his Lancashire retainers in respect of his rights, customs, and services, and often by charter acquiring and demising lands of his Manchester fief. He married twice, having issue by his

[61] *Inq. p.m.*, 38 Henry III, No. 10.

first wife, whose name is unknown, at least two sons, who lived to man's estate. He married, secondly, Christiana Ledet, widow of Henry de Braybroc, who survived him. She was a great heiress, but having no issue by Thomas Grelley, her inheritance descended to the issue of her first marriage, viz., her son Wyscard Ledet. The principal estates which descended to his issue from both parents were the barony of Wardon, or Westwardon, and the manors of Sutton, Potton, and Cadebury. It was said of two of those manors that John of Gaunt gave them, and an indefeasable title thereto, to one of his favourites, by the most concise charter ever known. It ran thus—

> I John of Gaunt, do give and do grant,
> To John of Burgoyne, and the heir of his loin,
> Sutton and Potton, until the world's rotten.

Christiana Ledet brought to her second husband, as her dower, a life estate in the barony of Wardon, in co. Northampton, of the levy of which to the scutage of Gannoc, Thomas Grelley had respite by writ, dated 10th April, 1248.[62]

Thomas Grelley died shortly before the 18th Feb., 1262, the date of the writ of *diem clausit extremum*, directed to the Escheator on this side Trent, to take his estates into the King's hands, his heir being under age. On March 6th following, the King assigned the manors of Swineshead and Sixhills to Christiana Ledet, the widow, to hold until her late husband's estates had been extended, when her dower would be assigned to her. By the 6th May, it had been found by inquest that Thomas Grelley had not enfeoffed Peter Grelley, his younger and surviving son, of his manor of Manchester within a sufficient length of time before his death, nor in such a manner that he could have free tenement

62 *Fine Roll Excerpts*, ii, p. 32. *Testa de Nevill*, pp. 23-35.

thereof, and that the wardship thereof pertained to the King, of whom Thomas had held by barony. The King therefore directed the Escheator beyond Trent to take the manor into the King's hands and safeguard it, and sent his mandate to the sheriff of Lancaster to take with him the power of the County and go in person to the said manor in case he found any resistance there to the order to take the same into the King's hands. The feoffment which the King set aside was in the following words :—

I Thomas Gredley have granted to Peter Gredley my son and his heirs my whole manor of Mammecestre with the advowson of the churches of Mammecestre and Childewell, and with the chapels of Aston, Hale and Garstan pertaining to the said churches, with all other the appurtenances of the manor of Mammecestre, within the vill and without, in demesnes, forests, meadows, mills, pools, vivaries, waters, woods, parks, pastures, homages, reliefs, wardships, escheats, tolls and all other appurt. named and unnamed. Also I give to the same Peter my manor of Barton, &c., which I bought fully from Sir Gilbert de Barton. I also give him my manor of Kyuerdeleye, &c. To hold to Peter and his heirs or assigns as freely as ever I more fully and freely held the same, by doing to Robert de Ferrers, son of Sir William, sometime Earl of Derby, and to his heirs the due services which I, Thomas, and my ancestors have been accustomed to do. These being witnesses—Sir Geoffrey de Chetham, David de Hulton, John de Birun, Robert de Aston, William le Norais, Richard de Moston, Alexander de Pilketon, Roger de Penulbury, Matthew de Burch, Richard son of Ranulf, Jordan son of Robert, Richard de Boudon, William the clerk, and others.[63]

It will be noticed that no trusts are expressed in this deed.

Six years later, on the feast of SS. Innocents, 52 Henry III (1268), in the High Court at Winchester, Peter Grelegh, styling himself Warden of the Church of Mamecestre, made an acknowledgment that if Robert, son of Robert, firstborn son of Sir Thomas Greilegh, who is heir of the said Thomas, should die during the lifetime of Sir Philip

63 *Close Roll*, No. 82, *m* 11 *d*, 46 Henry III, 1261.

Bassett without having attained his full age, whereby the right of the inheritance would devolve upon the said Peter, that the said Philip Basset should have and hold the manor of Periton by Walingeford, with the appurtenances, for the term of his life ; after his death to fully revert to Peter and his heirs without impediment of anyone.[64]

On February 21st, 1262, the King, in fulfilment of a promise to John Baliol, in acknowledgment of his services, to provide a marriage for one of his sons or daughters of the value of 500*li.* or up to 1000*li.*, gave him the marriage of Robert [grandson and] heir of Thomas Grelley, and of the first-born son of Robert. In case the first-born son died before Baliol married him to one of his daughters, or in case the daughter died before she was able by law to obtain dower from the said heritage, Baliol was to have the marriage of the next heir of the said first-born son.[65] The contemplated marriage never took place.

From the *Hundred Rolls* we learn that Robert Grelley, grandson of Sir Thomas, was under age in 3 Edward I (1275),[66] and from the inquirers in Kirkton, in Holland Wapentake, "that the ancestors "of Robert Grilley of Swineshead enfeoffed the "Abbot of Swineshead of the place where the Abbey "is set, with 12 scores of acres of land in the vill of "Swineshead, of which each acre is worth 12*d.* "yearly, but at what time they know not. And the "said Robert holds them of Lord Edmund, the "King's brother, who now is, of the Honour of "Lancaster, &c." The abbot came and showed a charter of confirmation of King Henry II.[67]

Robert Grelley came of age shortly before May 15th, 1275, that being the date of the King's

64 *Abbreviatio Placitorum*, p. 172*b*.
65 *Patent Rolls*, 46 Hen. III, pt. 1, *m.* 15.
66 Vol. i, p. 507.
67 *Ibid.*, p. 306.

mandate to the Escheator on this side Trent, to give him livery of Thomas Grelley's lands, as kinsman and heir of Thomas, the custody whereof had been committed to Edmund, the King's brother, the King having taken his homage and rendered his lands to him.[68]

On May 20th a like mandate was sent to the Escheator beyond Trent, to deliver to Robert the manors of Mamecestre, Barton, and Kyuerdelegh, saving the right of Peter Grelley, when he wished to prosecute it.[69]

In the King's Bench, in Trinity Term, 4 Edw. I (1276), Robert Gredleye demanded against Guy de Mortimer a messuage with appurtenances in Cambridge, of which Thomas Greddeley, his grandfather, whose heir he is, was seised at the day of his death, from whom the fee descended to one Robert, as son and heir, and from that Robert to this Robert who now demands as son and heir. Guy defended his right, and said that the messuage was acquired by one Albert Gredleye, who died seised thereof, and at his decease bequeathed it to the disposal of his executors and for the welfare of his soul, and they when in seisin, enfeoffed him, the said Guy *(sic)*. Moreover, while in seisin, the said executors let the messuage to one Peter Gredleye. He also says that Thomas Gredleye, of whose seisin it was, in going and returning through the town of Cambridge, was often entertained by the said Peter in that messuage, so that Thomas had nothing therein except as a guest, and did not die seised thereof. Subsequently they came to an agreement, Guy acknowledging the right of Robert, and rendering the messuage to him, to hold of Guy and his heirs for 7*s*. per annum, for which Robert gave him a sor hawk.[70]

[68] *Patent Rolls*, 3 Edw. I, p. 166.
[69] *Ibid.*, p. 173.
[70] *De Banco Roll*, No. 15, *m* 69.

Robert Grelley married Hawise, daughter and co-heir of John de Burgh, junior, who brought to her husband the manor of Wakerley, a member of her father's barony of Lanvaley, and other estates in cos. Norfolk and Somerset. She was 24 years of age in 8 Edward I (1280), and died 27 Edw. I (1299), having been dowered by her husband of the manor of Casterton, co. Rutland.[71]

Robert's death occurred some time shortly before 24th May, 1282, when the various writs of *diem clausit extremum* were issued. Thomas, his son and heir, was only two years and three-quarters old, having been born at Sixhills on the eve of St. Lawrence, 7 Edward I., *i.e.*, August 9th, 1279.[72] He therefore attained his majority on August 9th, 1300. When he was 12 years of age the King granted his marriage to Joan, wife of John Wake, to the use of one of the sisters of John Wake, but whether the nuptials were ever celebrated does not appear.[73] During his minority the King presented John de Drokenesford to the Church of Childwall, on March 15th, 1293, and again on July 30th, 1299. He also presented Master William Segini del God to the church of Manchester, on March 14th, 1296, and again on June 20th, the church being void by the resignation of William *(sic)* de Langton, bishop designate of Coventry and Lichfield. Three years later, viz., on September 27th, 1299, the King presented Otho de Grandison to the same church.[74]

On March 13th, 1307, the King sent his mandate to Thomas Grelley to do homage to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, for the lands which he held of the Honour of Lancaster, notwithstanding that he had already done homage to the King. He was a Knight of the Bath, and was summoned to Parlia-

71 *Cal. Genealogicum*, ii, p. 569.
72 *Cal. Genealogic.*, pp. 314, 569.
73 *Patent Rolls*, 24th Sept., 9 Edw. I, p. 445.
74 *Patent Rolls*, Edw. I, *vide* Calendars, *passim*.

ment as baron, by writ dated March 10th, 1308, returnable on the Quindene of Easter following, and until 4 Edward II.

In 1304 he alienated the manor of Willisham to William de la More, who obtained pardon on Nov. 6th for having acquired it without licence, and licence to retain it. Before May 10th, 1308, he also alienated the manor of Piriton to John de Guise, and before October 23rd, 1310, the manor of Wakerley to John la Warre, who had married his sister Joan, and had obtained an acknowledgment for 6000*li.* from Thos. Grelley, to be levied, in default of payment, on his lands and chattels in the counties of Lancaster, Lincoln, Northampton, Rutland, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Somerset, probably for Joan's marriage portion. On May 14th, 1308, John de Guise acknowledged that he owed Thomas de Grelle 7000*li.*, and John la Warre that he owed 4000*li.*, no doubt the consideration for the alienation of the manors of Piriton and Wackerley. The last reference to the eighth baron of Manchester, and the last male representative in the direct line of this noted family, is the acknowledgment, on June 8th, 1313, of Edmund Passelewe, of co. Kent, that he owed Thos. de Grelle 100*li.*

Thomas Grelley died soon after, when the manor of Manchester and its members, and what still remained of the other Grelley estates, passed to John la Warre, husband of Joan Grelley, sister and heir of Thomas Grelley. With him died out the last remaining of the old Conquest families who had held Lancashire baronies. De Lacy died out in 1311, Bussel and Montbegon scarcely saw the accession of Henry III, and de Villers and the first line of the Constables of Chester did not live to see peace restored in England on the accession of Henry II.

THE MEDIÆVAL FONTS OF THE HUNDREDS OF WEST DERBY AND WIRRAL.

By John W. Ellis, M.B., F.E.S.

Read 19th December, 1901.

QUITE apart from the sentiment with which one may regard the bowl at which generation after generation of the parishioners have received the sacrament of baptism, many of the old fonts in our country churches possess a special interest for the ecclesiologist and for the student of decorative art. Not only is the font often the only remaining structural evidence of the pre-existence of a church older than the one that now contains it, as is the case at Wallasey and Kirkby in our own neighbourhood, but the ornament with which many fonts are decorated provides an excellent epitome of the architectural features of the period of its construction. Some fonts, too, like the miserere seats of our minster churches, have carved upon them some device, often, possibly, the outcome of the artistic temperament pure and simple, without any utilitarian motive, but probably as often intended to teach the unlettered peasant some scripture story or inculcate

some moral precept. And though such ornament is often exquisite in design and workmanship, it is frequently otherwise. Yet the rudely carved and often quaint sculptures of some of the earlier fonts ought to be regarded with the same interest as the flint-scratched bones of the river gravels of France, and for the same reason—they each show most clearly the ideals and characteristics of pictorial and decorative art in its earlier stages. This being the case, it is somewhat surprising that the study of mediæval fonts has attracted, comparatively, so little attention; and as I have not been able to find in the *Transactions* of this or other local society any collected notice of Lancashire or Cheshire fonts, I have thought it might not be without interest to place upon record a brief description of the mediæval fonts of the Hundreds of West Derby (Lancashire) and Wirral (Cheshire).

HUNDRED OF WEST DERBY.

Selecting the topographical rather than the more precise but less convenient alphabetical order of arrangement, I propose to commence the series with—

Walton-on-the-Hill.

The ancient font at Walton affords an excellent example of the vicissitudes through which many of these venerable objects have passed since their supercession, often by others whose only recommendation consisted in their novelty. Turned out of the church in 1754, this font was for many years in use as a mounting-stool and seat, by the door of the adjacent village public-house, which position it occupied when Matthew Gregson called attention to it, somewhere about 1817. Subsequently removed to the churchyard, it has been, within recent

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL

HUYTON

years, restored to its original use in the church, standing now beneath the tower on a modern support, consisting of a plain central and three twisted lateral columns, somewhat after the style of those beneath the celebrated Norman font at Winchester. The original portion consists of a massive circular bowl of sandstone, having around its circumference six raised panels, which, together with the intervening spaces, are occupied by rough (? axe-cut) carvings, now much obliterated by exposure to the weather and to the still more destructive agency of human hands (and feet!). The only portions of this sculpture that can be at all satisfactorily determined seem to represent *(a)* The Temptation, where the serpent, coiled round the tree of life, occupies the centre of a panel, with Adam and Eve on either side; *(b)* a figure, with a nimbus round the head, seated on an ass, and preceded by another on foot carrying a child, apparently an unconventional representation of the flight into Egypt; and *(c)* some bold floral ornament between the panels.

Height of bowl	21 in.
Diameter of bowl (inside) .	22 ,,
Depth	12 ,,

Each panel is about 9 inches wide, and projects about 1½ in. This font is an interesting specimen of early Norman workmanship, and dates probably from the time of Edward the Confessor, when "Presbyter habeat carucatum terræ ad ecclesiam "Waletone." (*Gent. Mag.*, 1845, part ii, p. 370).

Sefton.

Standing beneath the tower arch in Sefton parish church is a handsome font, in excellent preservation. It is of coarse sandstone, and each face of the octagonal bowl is occupied by a deeply-sunk

panel with a six-leaved ornament in high relief, enclosing a shield which is plain but for a perpendicular ridge which divides it vertically. The angles of the supporting column and of the octagonal base are filleted, and the heavy pyramidal oak cover bears on its rim the initials "R. R.: H. M.: C. W." (*i.e.*, churchwardens), together with the date 1688. In his article on the church (*Trans. Hist. Soc.*, 1895), the Rev. G. W. Wall remarks, that at the recent restoration of the church the font cover bore indications of having been gilded and coloured; and the writer of an article in the Liverpool *Daily Post* (about May, 1901) informs us that the carving of the font itself was covered with plaster, which may well account for its excellent preservation.

Height from plinth	45 in.
Height of bowl	15 ,,
Diameter of bowl (internally)	23 ,,
Depth	7 ,,

I am inclined to consider this font, which is of unusual pattern, an example of late fifteenth or probably early sixteenth century work.

Formby.

In a lonely spot amidst the coast sandhills, about half a mile from the shore, is the burial ground of the ancient village of Formby. The village suffered so much from the frequent inundations of blown sand, that about the middle of the eighteenth century a site was selected some two miles inland, the church was rebuilt there, and the village followed it. A memorial chapel has been erected on or near the site of the older church, and on a heap of stones, which formed part of this older structure, is the bowl of an ancient font, in a dilapidated condition. It is of coarse sandstone, is roughly circular, and

about two feet in diameter, and in favourable lighting bears traces of having been fluted perpendicularly. It has been perforated for drainage, but bears no trace of lead lining. It has the appearance and size of a font of the twelfth century, but I fear it is not possible to estimate its age with any approach to accuracy.

Altcar.

Another old font, in even worse condition than that at Formby, lies in the churchyard at Altcar, in company with the base of a cross and another font of the sundial pattern of the eighteenth century. The older one is an irregular heptagon, with one angle produced and grooved spoutlike, about a foot in diameter, and 4 or 5 inches deep. There is no trace of ornament, and it is not perforated for drainage. Its age can scarcely be decided, but it was most certainly in use in the wooden church that existed here in 1558, and which remained standing until superseded by a brick building in 1746. The sundial-like font, standing close by, bears the initials "I. W. : T. A." and the date 1747.

Halsall.

The ancient font of the parish church of Halsall was probably a handsome structure, if one may judge from the remnants of it—part of the base of the bowl and the supporting pillar—which have been built into the present modern one. The pillar is circular, and composed of a series of twelve engaged columns, with narrow intervening fillets, but without trace of capitals or bases. It probably dates from the fourteenth century.

Ormskirk.

In a paper on Ormskirk church (*Trans. Hist. Soc.*, 1877-8), Mr. James Dixon refers to a fragment of

what appears to have been a Norman font, inserted in the external wall of the eastern gable of the church. I have not been able to discover this fragment; and what the author of the same paper believes to have been the base of an E. E. font, which was discovered on the north side of the main pier of the spire, appears to have been covered up or destroyed during the restoration of the church. The present font bears the date 1661.

Aughton.

The mediæval font at Aughton is still in use, and stands beneath the tower, which in this church occupies an unusual position on the north side of the nave. The font is of fine-grained, light-coloured sandstone, and consists of a capacious octagonal bowl with plain faces, surmounted by a battlemented moulding. It has experienced rough usage, for scarcely more than half of the battlements are intact. It is lead-lined and has a water drain. The supporting column consists of four semi-detached columns, with plain capitals and square-shouldered plain bases. The base and plinth are modern.

Height	46½ in.
Height of bowl	18 ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	31 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	19 ,,
Depth	9½ ,,

This is an interesting example of fifteenth century workmanship.

Melling.

It is very difficult to assign a date to the font in use in Melling church, though, from its size and general character, it is probably pre-Reformation. It stands at the s.w. corner of the nave, and

consists of an octagonal bowl with plain faces, surmounted by a roll moulding, and diminishing below by a series of four similar mouldings. The stem is a portion only of the original one, a plain octagon, and it stands on the floor without any base. The font is of light-coloured sandstone, but has been covered with a thin coat of paint. Many plain-looking fonts have been found on investigation to be sculptured, the carving having been filled up with successive coats of paint or whitewash; but this is not the case with the Melling font, for the tool marks are plainly visible.

Height from floor	30 in.
Height of bowl	16 ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	30 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	21½ ,,
Depth	10 ,,

Kirkby.

So long ago as 1845, attention was called to the very interesting font now in Kirkby church, by a notice of it in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, ii, pp. 370-371, by Mr. W. T. Roberts, and that gentleman contributed a further article on the same font to the Historic Society in 1854 (*vide Transactions*). The same volume also contains a notice of the font from the pen of the Rev. Thomas Moore, and from these references we learn that previous to the incumbency of the Rev. Robert Cort, the font lay neglected in the churchyard, under the spout by the door of the old schoolroom, and was used by the school children to sharpen their knives and pencils upon. It was removed by Mr. Cort to the bier-house, on the north side of the chapel, where it was found by Mr. Roberts in 1845, lying among planks, ropes, and other gravedigger's materials, with its sculpture almost effaced by whitewash. At Mr. Roberts'

request it was removed to the vestry, and it was finally cleaned and restored to its original use by the late incumbent, the Rev. Robert Henry Gray. The original base, which up to that time had been used as a support for a sundial in the vicarage garden, was also restored to the church and to the ancient bowl, being connected with it at first by a plain cylindrical shaft, afterwards replaced, at the suggestion of the architect of the new church, by the present twisted stem. It now stands on a circular plinth at the west end of the nave.

Various opinions have been expressed with reference to the age of this font, but the preponderance of opinion seems to favour the idea that it is a relic of the Saxon church referred to in Domesday—"Uctredus tenebat manerium Cherchebi."

The font is of local red sandstone, with sculpture in high relief. The bowl is massive, circular, with a series of ten arcades, formed by semicircular arches, which are irregular in width and height, and pillars with well-marked capitals and bases. The spandrils of the arches are occupied by ornaments of a floral character, which spring from the centre of the capitals. The bowl rests on a support formed of a coil of serpents, the heads of three of which project above the coil. The compartments of the arcade contain rude sculptures. Compartment 1, facing east in the present position of the font, represents the temptation of Adam, wherein Eve hands with her left hand the forbidden fruit to her spouse, who is receiving it with his right; the position of the other hands showing that they have already realised the lesson learnt from their transgression. Between the two figures is the tree of life, round which winds a serpent with a wolf-like face directed towards the legendary mother of the human race. One may notice Eve's remarkable coiffure, for her hair hangs nearly to her feet in a

huge coil or plait. Compartment 2, to the left, contains a figure who wields a huge sword in the right hand, while the raised left one appears to be directing the trespassers to depart from the garden of Eden. In compartment 3 stands a figure who grasps with both hands a staff or spear, which rests below in the open mouth (well toothed, be it remarked) of one of the serpents issuing from the coil that supports the bowl. The remaining seven compartments are each occupied by a single figure in priestly robes, that are believed by Mr. Roberts to represent the seven orders of the Saxon church: the mass priest or presbyter, the deacon, the sub-deacon, the acolyth, the exorcist, the lector, and the ostiary. Compartment 4 contains a figure who holds in the right hand an open book. In 5 the right hand of the figure grasps a staff or spear (for there appears to be a head distinct from the shaft) while the left holds an open book. Compartment 6 is occupied by a crowned or mitred figure who holds the right hand raised, with the two fingers extended in the attitude of benediction; the left hand holds a staff or scroll. In 7 is another crowned or mitred figure, holding in the right hand a long staff (? with a hooked extremity) and an open book in the other. Beneath the figures in compartments 6 and 7 are two of the three serpent-heads that issue from the coil. Compartment 8 contains a figure holding a staff, and wearing on the breast a square object suspended from the shoulders. In 9 is a figure holding an open book with both hands; while the figure in compartment 10 stands with the hands folded. The dimensions of the bowl are—

Height	25 in.
Diameter (outside)	28 ,,
,, (inside)	19 ,,
Depth	11 ,,

The base, which has already been referred to as having served as the support for a sundial, consists of a coil or cable similar in character to that which supports the bowl, but larger in diameter and more massive, being three feet across and nine inches in thickness.

Wigan.

Lying in the garden at Wigan Hall (the residence of the rector) is the decorated or perpendicular bowl of a font removed from Wigan parish church, and used successively as a rain-water butt and flower pot. It is octagonal, of mill-stone grit, and has the central portion of its circumference occupied by a band of quatrefoils, so arranged as to present a pair on each face of the font except the eighth, which has been left plain and rough as though for attachment to a wall or pier, and *this face*, and not the bottom of the basin as usual, has been pierced for the water drain. Another and larger opening has been made near the lower edge of one of the ornamental faces, probably at the time when it was in use as a rain-water basin.

Height	12 in.
Diameter (outside)	27 ,,
,, (inside)	21 ,,

Notwithstanding its experiences since its rejection from the church, this font is not in the dilapidated condition that the notice of it in Baines' *Lancashire* would lead one to expect, and with a little restoration it might become a useful as well as interesting ornament to one of the new churches of the district. Even if not restored, it is worth preserving from the injurious influences of the weather, and I have suggested to the rector that room might be found for it in an out-of-the-way corner of the church.

WIGAN

KIRKBY

Winwick.

The bowl of what has originally been a very beautiful font, but too badly damaged to be of any further use, was discovered beneath the floor of the church during the restoration in 1877. This fragment now stands in the churchyard, beneath the east window of the church. It is octagonal, of mill stone grit, and each face of the octagon has once borne upon it four elaborately carved four-leaved flowers with central bosses, but these ornaments are so worn down as to be distinguishable only with difficulty. The dimensions appear to have been—

Height	at least 12 in.
Diameter (outside)	27 ,,
,, (inside)	20 ,,

From the character of its ornament this font appears to have been a typical specimen of decorated work (fourteenth century).

Farnworth (near Widnes).

During the restoration of the church at Farnworth, in 1894, the font was removed from the west end of the north aisle to its present position at the west end of the nave, where it stands on a circular plinth. It is of local sandstone, octagonal, and perfectly plain, except for a roll moulding at the junction of the neck of the bowl with the shaft; and as the base is considerably less in diameter than the bowl, the font has a clumsy top-heavy appearance.

Height from plinth . . .	41 in.
Height of bowl.	12½ ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	32 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	25 ,,
Depth	10 ,,

It seems almost impossible to estimate the age of this font, but the large size of its bowl would lead one to the belief that it is properly included in the mediæval fonts of the district. The earliest record of Farnworth church appears to be about 1430.

Huyton.

The *Transactions of the Historic Society* for 1873, contains a notice, by Mr. Henry Ecroyd Smith, of the interesting Saxon or early Norman font discovered beneath the pavement of the tower of Huyton church in 1873. It is a massive circular font of very early workmanship, much older than any portion of the present church. It has been badly cracked in several places, but when found it still preserved its original lining of lead, and traces of the staples for the attachment of the cross-bar by which the cover was secured.[1] It has been mounted on a pedestal, in keeping with the original bowl, and now stands at the east end of the south aisle of the church. This interesting font is of local sandstone, and has sculptured, in low relief, a series of plain semi-circular arches, which rest on pillars having the small square-edged capital and pyramidal bases so characteristic of Saxon and early Norman workmanship. The compartments of the arcade are eleven in number, and each contains a head (of a saint?), surmounted by a rayed crown or nimbus, and with a curved label below, on which is a repetition of the rayed pattern above

[1] In 1236 it was ordered by Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, that all baptismal fonts should be provided with a cover, which was to be kept locked, in order to preserve the water from witchcraft *(propter sortilegem)*. The earlier font covers were usually flat, fastened by an iron bar that passed through staples let into the rim, and secured by a padlock. Occasionally the staples still remain, but more commonly the holes are seen, or the font has been damaged at the rim by the forcible removal of the cover. These early covers were gradually replaced by more elaborate structures, culminating in the magnificent spires of tabernacle work still to be met with in many of the Suffolk churches.

the head. The heads present no individuality, and there are not any devices or symbols from which we can learn who they are intended to represent. The space between the bevelled rim and the arcading is occupied by a row of circles containing six-petalled flowers in low relief.

Height (including pedestal) .	33 in.
Height of bowl	22 ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	26 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	19 ,,
Depth	11 ,,

Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith believes that this font dates from the eighth or ninth century, and that it owes its Roman character (the arcading and the six-petalled flowers) to the quantity of Roman altars and other carved work of that period which were scattered over the land, and which were largely copied by the Saxon sculptors.

Another old font stands in Huyton churchyard, near the entrance to the rectory garden, in use as a flower pot. It is of very unusual character and of rude execution, and possibly dates from the thirteenth century. It consists of a massive bowl of millstone grit, almost square in outline, but having the sides slightly convex in the middle, and the angles produced and rounded. It is entirely without ornament. The cavity of the bowl is circular, and the rim on one side still contains the solder for the attachment of a staple, the corresponding portion on the opposite side being broken off. In the middle of one of the sides is a large smoothly bored hole, which has probably been made subsequent to its removal from the church. It stands on a short octagonal shaft and shallow base.

Height	31 in.
Height of bowl	15 ,,
Sides of bowl	21½ ,,
Diameter of bowl	14½ ,,

The font now in use in Huyton church, and which stands at the west end of the nave, is in such excellent preservation that, had it not been for a reference to it in a paper by Mr. F. T. Turton, in the *Transactions* of this society for 1881-2, p. 88, in which he states that it dates from about 1460, I should have considered it a tolerably recent copy of a fifteenth century font. It is of local sandstone, is lead-lined, and has a drain. The bowl is octagonal, the sides narrowing downwards in a curve, and each face consists of a deeply-sunk panel, containing a quatrefoil with pointed leaves enclosing a plain shield. At the junction of the bowl with the short plain octagonal stem is a strong moulding, while the base expands to about the diameter of the bowl by a series of mouldings of simple and graceful character.

Height	33 in.
Height of bowl	14½ ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	30 ,,
,, ,, (inside) . .	21 ,,
Depth ,, ...	9½ ,,

Roby.

In the churchyard at Roby stands an old font, now in use as a flower pot, that, according to the parish clerk of Huyton, was originally taken to Roby from the parish church at Prescot. The bowl is circular, of local red sandstone, shallow in proportion to its diameter, but without the slightest attempt at ornament, and it stands on an equally

plain cylindrical support without any distinct base. The dimensions of the bowl are—

Height	15 in.
Diameter (inside)	23 ,,

This font appears to be early in character, probably twelfth century, and it may possibly have once been sculptured, for it bears the appearance of having been smoothed with a chisel during comparatively recent times. A church existed at Prescot in the thirteenth century, and probably this is the original font of that church.

We have now concluded our survey of the Hundred of West Derby, and of the fonts that have come under our notice, *eleven* [Walton, Formby, Halsall (in part), Aughton, Kirkby, Wigan, Winwick, Roby, and Huyton (3)] certainly date from before the sixteenth century, while *four* [Sefton, Altcar, Melling, and Farnworth] are placed in that category with some reservation. It will be noticed that certain parishes of the hundred [Childwall, Leigh, North Meols, Ormskirk, Warrington, and Liverpool] are, so far as I can ascertain, without any font older than the middle of the seventeenth century.

Hundred of Wirral.

We commence our survey of the Hundred of Wirral at the parish church of

Wallasey.

Standing at the foot of one of the lower piers of the modern Wallasey church is an interesting example of a circular tub-shaped font of early Norman character, which was turned out of old Wallasey church in 1760, into the rectory garden,

where it remained until 1834, when it was restored to its original use by Dr. Byrth, the rector at that time. A new font was given to the church in 1856, a few months before the fire, and the old one was again relegated to the rectory garden, to be once more taken into the church, thirty years later, by Canon Gray. (*Vide* W. C. Ashby Pritt, *Trans. Hist. Soc.*, 1891-2).[2] It is of coarse local sandstone, and though very massive, has been badly fractured, especially about the rim, where the hasps for its cover-attachment have been wrenched away, carrying portions of the stonework with them. It is surrounded by a simple arcade, in low relief, of semi-circular arches and piers, with the square capitals and sloped bases characteristic of Saxon and early Norman workmanship. Below the rim is a single row of indented ornament, and the piers of the arcade stand on a bold cable moulding above the base of the bowl.

Height	23 in.
Diameter (outside)	30 ,,
,, (inside)	20 ,,
Depth	12 ,,

Mr. W. Ferguson Irvine (*Churches of Wirral*, p. 16) informs us that the font at Eyam, Derbyshire, so closely resembles this at Wallasey "that one is "almost tempted to believe that they were cut by "the same mason."

Birkenhead.

Among the relics of Birkenhead priory (figured in the *Transactions* of this society, 1890) is a fragment of what appears to have been a Norman font,

[2] To add to the experiences of this old font, I have been informed, since the above was written, that it has been recently mounted on a pedestal and placed for use in one of the new churches of the parish.

NESTON

WALLASEY

which has been circular, with a thickened rim, and ornament consisting of concentric circles and segments of circles. The fragment is some 21 inches long by 12 inches deep. It is probably a relic of the original foundation, in 1150.

Woodchurch.

Though portions of the present church date from the twelfth century, the font, which stands beneath the tower, is a characteristic specimen of the fifteenth century. It is of light-coloured stone, octagonal, each face of the bowl consisting of a plain sunk panel. It is lead-lined and has a water drain. The bowl is supported at each of its angles by a rudely carved angel with outstretched wings, and the neck of the bowl is separated from the stem by a strong moulding. Four sides of the stem have shields, sculptured in high relief, bearing emblems of the Passion, viz., a flagellum, cross and crown of thorns, pincers and nail, and a mallet head (?), while the intervening sides have two roses, a fleur-de-lis, and a cross fleury. The base is formed by a gradual expansion of the supporting column.

Height	49 in.
Height of bowl	14½ ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	24 ,,
Depth ,, ...	12 ,,

This font, the only one of the kind in the Hundred, scarcely deserves the praise bestowed upon it by Mortimer, who remarks—"It is considered that "there are not more than two in the kingdom of "greater antiquity or more exquisite design."—(*Hundred of Wirral*, p. 121).

Bebington.

Bebington church is considered to be, architecturally, the most interesting church in Wirral, and the font that is still in use, and which stands at the west end of the nave, is coeval with the Norman work of the south wall and nave arcade. It is in excellent preservation, and the bowl is very unusual, if not unique, in its ornamentation. It is circular, of white stone, with a fillet below the rim, bearing a row of small oval depressions, and the remainder of the circumference occupied by six plain panels of unequal size. It is not lined with lead, but has a water drain. The bowl is supported on a conical eight-sided pedestal, which is compressed by a plain fillet a few inches below the attachment to the bowl. I think it probable that this support and the octagonal plinth upon which it stands, are of somewhat more recent date than the bowl itself.

Height from plinth . . .	39½ in
Height of bowl	14½ ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	26 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	18 ,,
Depth ,, ...	8 ,,

Bromborough.

All trace of the early church at Bromborough has disappeared, with the exception of a few carved stones probably from the original Saxon building, which are carefully preserved. The font in use before the building of the present church was a plain shaft, with a small hollow in the top, holding only water enough to sprinkle with. This is now preserved on the rectory lawn, filled in as a sundial.

BEBINGTON

WOODCHURCH

Eastham.

Standing beneath the tower of Eastham church is an excellent example of a font of the Norman period. It is of white stone, and has a massive circular bowl without any other ornament than some simple moulding. It is lined with lead and has a water drain, and is supported on a cylindrical shaft, with plain moulding round the top, middle, and base. This stands on a square base, which in turn rests on a square plinth with cut-off corners.

Height from plinth	44 in.
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	27 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	19 ,,
Depth ,, ...	9 ,,

The socket holes, from whence the hasps of the cover-fastening have been removed, are unusually perfect. I heard these holes described by the verger to a visitor as being intended for the support of candles!

Stoke.

In the works of Ormerod and Mortimer only three of the Wirral fonts are noticed, and both authors refer to the one at Stoke, which is described by Ormerod as circular, about three feet high, and rather more than two feet in diameter, ornamented round the sides with a series of tall and narrow Saxon arches. *(Hist. Chesh.*, ii, 390). Not having seen any trace of an ancient font on my visit to the church, I made enquiry from the vicar, the Rev. R. W. Pritchard, who informed me that the old font was "destroyed many years ago, by some "workmen stupidly lighting a fire in it, while the "church was under repair."

Shotwick.

Opposite the south door of this church is a white-washed octagonal font, which may date from almost any period since the thirteenth century. It stands on a circular plinth, and beyond a roll moulding at the base of the bowl and at the contracted portion of the shaft, it is devoid of ornament. It is lead-lined and has a drain.

Height from plinth	44 in.
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	30 ,,
Depth of bowl	10 ,,

Burton.

At the west end of the south aisle of Burton church is a massive but extremely simple font, of very uncertain date, but resembling some Lincolnshire fonts of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. It is of local sandstone, and in shape represents two cylinders, the upper and smaller forming the bowl, the lower, which is four or five inches greater in diameter, standing on a circular plinth. It is devoid of ornament, except a double groove below the rim, and its surface is so well preserved that it would appear to have been re-cut within recent years. It is lead-lined and has a water drain.

Height from plinth . . .	41 in.
Height of the bowl . . .	18½ ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	25 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	18 ,,
Depth ,, ...	12 ,,

Neston.

Neston church still contains, though not in use, the font described by Mortimer in his *History of Wirral*; but though it appears to have been perfect when he saw it—in the middle of the last century—

it is now broken, and a portion of the shaft is missing. It has been a handsome specimen of the Perpendicular period. The bowl is octagonal, each face having a square panel, with a deeply sunk quatrefoil within a circle, and the few inches of the shaft which remain show that each of its eight sides had a trefoil-headed ornament within a rectangular panel. The base is plain. It now stands by the south-east pier of the tower, in company with some sculptured remains of the ancient church.

Heswall.

In a corner of Heswall churchyard are preserved the remains of two old fonts, one of the sundial pattern of the eighteenth century, the other a massive octagonal bowl, dating probably from the thirteenth or fourteenth century, and quite devoid of ornament.

Thurstaston.

The font that was in use before the rebuilding of Thurstaston church is now preserved (?) in the tower of the old church, among grave-slabs and building material. It is very rude in construction, of fine sandstone, but has been painted. The bowl is an irregular-sided octagon, lead-lined, but without any drain, and without the slightest trace of ornament. It is supported on a plain cylindrical shaft, which in turn rests on an octagonal base.

Height	about 42 in.
Height of bowl	16 ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	22 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	17 ,,
Depth ,, ...	9 ,,

It is impossible to determine the age of this ugly specimen, and the narrowness of the bowl in proportion to its height is probably an indication of its being post-Reformation in date.

West Kirby.

The ancient font of West Kirby is now preserved in the museum in the old school-house adjoining the churchyard. It is badly damaged, having, after its removal from the church, been buried in the rectory garden, from whence it was rescued by the present rector. It is a plain octagon, without ornament, except a roll moulding at the junction of the bowl with the shaft, and of the latter with the base.

Height	41 in.
Height of bowl	12 ,,
Diameter of bowl (outside) .	27 ,,
,, ,, (inside) .	22 ,,

It probably dates from the thirteenth or fourteenth century.

Our survey of Wirral is now completed. Of the *eleven* fonts which have been described, all, with the possible exception of Thurstaston, can, I think, be claimed as mediæval; and it may be noticed that out of the fifteen parishes into which the Hundred is divided there are only five [Bidston, Bromborough, Stoke, Backford, and Overchurch, and possibly Thurstaston] whose fonts are not capable of being classed under this head.

ORIGIN OF THE MAYORAL ALLOWANCE AT LIVERPOOL AND CHESTER.

By John Elton.

Read 14th March, 1901.

THERE is little doubt that some, if not all, of the early Plantagenet mayors of the kingdom enjoyed only small and very precarious grants for meeting official expenses. It would be a great step in advance for a Corporation to pass, from a habit of settling bills already paid on the mayor's account, to a custom of voting him a fund to be expended at his own discretion, for the benefit of his borough at large; but, this change once achieved, we have before us the literal origin of the mayoral allowance of the present day. Unfortunately there seem to be no direct records existing of any such early custom prevailing: and at Liverpool the only allusion to its existence at all appears to be that incidentally made in a resolution of the port-mote at as late a date as 6th September, 1630. This mentions "the fines formerly allowed to the mayor "and bailiffs," to cover mayoral expenditure. The

resolution is quoted in a later paragraph of this paper. But to pass to more definite ground, and deal with the circumstances from which the modern custom more directly was developed. These circumstances at Liverpool and Chester, and probably at other towns dating back to manorial times, comprised the granting of the toll on corn exposed for sale in the market place: the toll being taken in kind by officials of the corporation, and sold for "the benefit of the town" and actually on behalf of the mayor. The corn toll is thus distinguished from the ingate and outgate tolls, the dues on vessels, the general stallage rents of the markets, and other sources of income accruing to the corporation but not specially to the mayor.

At Liverpool, in the "Precedents" of 1524, transcribed in the *Record Book* for 1558, we find the corporation then holding manorial jurisdiction over the corn-market and the corn-toll; and directing that the latter was to be sold at the close of the market each week, obviously to ensure its being sold equitably to all parties at current prices. In 1555 the corporation directed the disposal of a portion of the receipts from the corn-toll in part payment of the salary of the minister at the corporation chapel of St. Nicholas:—

1555. 12 Aug. Sir W. Norres, Mayor.

It is ordered that those persons whose names are here written, every two persons for their streets, shall move their neighbours for the Clerk's wages: that is to say wages for Nicholas Smythe our Clerk of the Chapel, and teacher of their children: who have concluded that a book be made of good and lawful money of England to be made good and paid to the said Nicholas during his life: and also a moiety or one dimidium of the corn market: and thereof indentures made and sealed as well with the Common Seal as also with his seal, remaining in the common coffer. And, for want of having the one dimidium of the corn market, he to have thirty shillings by the hands of the officers for the time being in that behalf.

The last clause in this order shews the toll to be valued by the corporation at £3 per annum. This arrangement was made by the corporation as lords of the manor, at a period when Sir Richard Molyneux and themselves were at loggerheads as to which of the two should exercise the rights of that lordship. Molyneux was the actual lord of the place, but had disposed of certain rights to the corporation, and the progress of their dispute brings the corn-toll again into view :—

1556. 18 Oct. Thos. More, Mayor.

On New Year's Day, 1555, was served with injunctions in the chapel of Liverpool, master Mayor, the bailiffs, &c. by Nicholas Rigbye and others servants to Sir Richard Molyneux. Saturday being the 4th day of January, Hugh Danbie and his son John Danbie took upon them to receive [on behalf of Sir R. Molyneux] the corn of the market contrary to the laudable use and custom &c. And for the taking of the which corn, scarcely worth in estimation 1d. obolus, master Mayor aforesaid put Hugh Danbie in ward and therein kept him night and day until Saturday in the ensuing days of Lent which was the 22nd of Feby. On which day came Nicholas Rigbye and others servants of Sir R. Molyneux and shewed commandment from the Chancellor of the Duchy in Westminster for the deliverance of the said Danbie. In which meanwhile the Clerk of the Chapel gathered the Corn of the market, for the town, quietly. On the said 22nd day order was taken between Master Walker, then eldest alderman in the town, and Sir R. Molyneux that Gilbert Robinson should gather the said corn and keep it indifferently until further proofs were known of Master Mayor's doings, as then not returned from London. And so did.

In the following January, Robinson was still in the exercise of his duty, but on behalf of the corporation, who decided how the corn-toll was to be appropriated :—

1556/7. 9 Jany. Thos. More Mayor.

It is agreed that Gilbert Robinson shall have one half of the

corn of this market for the repair and maintenance of all the streets about the town: and the other half of the grain shall remain to Nicholas Smyth parson of the church, as it did before the present time by gift of the mayor, aldermen and burgesses in the manner appearing in an indenture made under the common Seal in that behalf.

Robinson soon gave up his duties to Hugh Brodhed, and he again to Christopher Hatton; who, as town's customer, keeper of the Customs book, collector of the customs, collector of fee farme rents, and collector of tolls and toll-corn, received a grant of twenty shillings a year: "which "xx$^{s.}$ Hugh Brodhed had for his pains" in discharging the same duties previously. Like Brodhed, Hatton soon tired of the post; and in 1571 the corporation endeavoured to thrust the work and the twenty shillings per annum upon the parson of St. Nicholas'. Smythe had passed away, and the new cleric and pedagogue was John Peile, who stood upon his dignity and "refused the aforesaid twenty "shillings for gathering the said tolls, but gathered "his money from house to house throughout the "town." The poor parson's perigrinations through the borough, collecting his salary by the goodwill of his people, must surely have been regarded as a scandalous reproach to the corporation, and we hear no more of their misdirected economy in the matter. Thomas Hitchmough was appointed collector of all tolls; his accounts being annually audited in so curt a form that we can gather no estimate of the value of the corn toll. *E.g.*:—

1584. Accounted with Thomas Hitchmough, Town's Customer, whose receipts and payments being accounted and allowed, in all things concerning his office of Town's Customer, the said Thomas Hitchmough is found due to have of the town the sum of three pence ob.

On 24th October, 1585, during the mayoralty of Ferdinand Le Strange, the corporation resolved that "the toll-corn shall be brought into the Com-"mon Hall and sold for the most advantage of "the town every week: there shall be two dishes "for taking the toll, one for a wyndle another for "half a wyndle"; and (on Nov. 19th) "the two "toll dishes shall be made before Christmas." This order was confirmed at the next annual general assembly, on October 24th, 1586, with the addition that the corn was to be sold "at the sight of the "bailiff": and at the same time the hitherto immaculate Thomas Hitchmough was presented by Port Mote as fineable for not making out his accounts and not bringing the toll-corn into the Common Hall for sale. The rate of the toll nor yet its aggregate value per annum can up to this date be gathered; and the latter first appears in the accounts for 1590: the best example of the yearly statement at this period being the following:

1594. Oct. 30. Accounted with Peter Starkie late Customer of this said town; whose receipts touching his office of the Town's Customer aforesaid for the said last year do arise unto as followeth, viz., for Ingates xiij$^{li.}$ v$^{s.}$; for Outgates v$^{li.}$ iiij$^{s.}$ ix$^{d.}$; and for Corne iiij$^{li.}$ vj$^{s.}$ ij$^{d.}$; in toto xxij$^{li.}$ xv$^{s.}$ xj$^{d.}$: Paid and delivered over to Mr. Bailiff Ball to the towne's use: And so the said Peter Starkie thereof discharged for ever.

For forty years from this period the precious toll-corn was regularly gathered and sold every week, almost without incident to be recorded. In 1597 the corporation ordered that "the two leave-lookers "shall attend the corn market one hour before the "market bell rings [9 a.m.] to see the gathering of "the toll-corn, and see it safely laid up in the Com-"mon Hall, and they shall carry halberds": and in 1612 no less a personage than Richard Tyrer,

the sexton of St. Nicholas', was presented at Port Mote "for selling his corn upon the market day "without paying toll"; no doubt having presumed to dispose of it without taking it to the market at all. But though much information regarding the corn-market itself remains, nothing more occurs regarding our special subject till the year 1630, with the important exception that in the interval we are enabled to ascertain, from some of the annual statements of accounts, the yearly value of the toll. This appears as "corne money," as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
1590...	3	4	11
1591...	7	6	8
1593...	3	13	5
1594...	4	6	2
1595...	7	19	7
1596...	8	13	7
1597...	11	2	9½
1598...	13	19	0
1600...	6	13	10
1601...	10	6	6
1602...	6	0	6
1603...	7	19	1
1608...	7	13	0
1610...	7	14	2
1611...	2	6	8
1612...	6	6	2
1616...	7	11	8
1617...	10	17	4
1620...	6	5	4
1621...	5	2	4
1623...	17	14	0
1624...	12	6	0
1625...	7	6	10
1628...	7	19	8
1629...	5	4	0

the average for the twenty-five years being only £7 16*s.* 6*d.* per annum. These sums, or a portion of their number, we now find had for some time been devoted neither to paving the streets nor paying the parson, but to covering the civic expenses of the mayor. When the change was, precisely, made cannot apparently be traced. The original order of the corporation to that effect does not seem to be in the *Record Books*, and the first intimation of the change only appears incidentally :

1630. 6 Sept. Robert Williamson Mayor.

It is agreed that whereas it is formerly ordered and agreed that the mayor and bailiffs for the time being should have the Toll Corn for and in lieu of the fines formerly allowed unto them and that the fines and amercements should redound and

come unto the use of the town and be gathered and collected at the town's charge, and the bailiffs only upon request to assist them; It is this day ordered that for ever hereafter the bailiffs for the time being shall gather the said fines and amercements; or, if they refuse, then the said Toll Corn to come to the Town again, and the mayor and bailiffs take what course they please for the gathering of the same. The bailiffs are exempted for the present year.

The effect of this was that, whereas by the former order the toll-corn was granted to the mayor and bailiffs in consideration of the bailiffs assisting in gathering the toll for the mayor when required, now the services of the bailiffs for collecting were rendered compulsory. Our present interest in the entry is, however, comprised in the facts that (1) the mayor and bailiffs had been in receipt of certain fines, (2) that now they were in receipt of the toll from the corn-market. From this date the borough accounts contain no reference to the receipts from toll-corn, but for the next century and a quarter this small if stable concession yielded an annual official allowance from the corporation to the mayor of Liverpool.

For even those days of modest expenses the amount of the grant could not be said to err on the side of extravagance, and in 1707 the corporation endeavoured to eke out its narrow limits from another source; resolving that "present and future "mayors shall be allowed the two best fines of "freemen admitted during his year." (*Record Book*, vi, 175.) A fair number of freemen at about this period were enrolled every year, and though the ordinary fines were but 3*s.* 4*d.* for the sons, and 6*s.* 8*d.* for the apprentices of burgesses already free, yet there were occasionally available some little "plums," in the way of exactions upon applicants from outside the town. On this class of aspiring freemen the corporation imposed arbitrary fines,

varying according to the desirability or the reverse of the candidate being added to the traders and voters of the town. Some few years before 1707 fines of £20 were not infrequent. In 1698, Samuel Shaw, merchant, of Devonshire, was fined forty guineas as an admission fee; the corporation obliging him, on his application for the sum to be reduced, by making it forty pounds. In 1705 and 1706 the highest fines seem to have been £10 or £12; and during the ensuing fifty years no larger amounts seem to occur, while the average is very much smaller. Probably the mayors received from this additional source of revenue at most £10 per annum.

On this basis matters progressed till 1755, when the inadequacy of the allowance was recognised, and a change made on the election of Lawrence Spencer to the mayoralty:—

Resolved, That as the entertainment of the two Fair Dinners [25 July and 11 Nov.] since the building of the New Exchange must of necessity be considerably increased, from the entertainment to be provided and furnished for tables suitable to the rooms, therefore the present and future mayor and bailiffs shall be allowed and paid by the Corpt^n. any sum not exceeding the sum of 120 guineas for defraying the expense of the two said dinners: And that in lieu or aid thereof the present and future mayor and bailiffs give up to the Corpt^n. all their right, title and interest in the Tolls commonly called the Corn Tolls: so that the Corpt^n. are from henceforth during this agreement to receive the Corn Tolls, as also the Ingate and Outgate Tolls, payable or arising within this borough or Corpt^n.

In 1757, during a period of extreme dearth and general distress among the people, the two fair dinners were abandoned, "and the money laid out "in the purchase of corn by the Corn Committee": the mayor, who made the suggestion, evidently foregoing the allowance for that year. Nor were

the dinners resumed; but some monetary allowance to future mayors was continued (though we have no details of the amounts), and the corporation continued to lease out to the highest bidder the whole of their tolls.[1] Of the corn toll we hear nothing further, and in 1806 the right of taking it was comprised in the concessions made to the proprietors of the first Liverpool Corn Exchange.

The early procedure at Chester, as gathered from the city *Record Books*, was similar to that at Liverpool, and need not be followed more closely than will demonstrate the point. At Liverpool the principal events mentioned above commenced in 1558; at Chester the corn toll first tangibly appears in 1589, in connection with the vicissitudes of Randle Eaton, one of the four sergeants-at-mace. In that year, "for sundrie offences by hym committed," Randle was not only deprived of his freedom of the city, but also of his "fourthe parte of the toll "corne in the corne market," which constituted a part of his income as a sergeant; the said fourth part being ordered to be devoted to the repair of the city walls. Nevertheless, in 1591, Eaton is discovered in receipt of a pension of five marks per

[1] These tolls were to be advertised in 1755 for lease for three years. How they were let does not appear, but at the expiry of three years it was resolved that one Stephen Tallinghast "shall have the Corpt^n. Tolls for "this year and that for the future the mayor and bailiffs and the Corpt^n. "Comttee be empowered to settle it before the year is out." In 1760 it was agreed that "Stephen Tillinghast have the Tolls commonly called "the Ingates and Outgates, the Corn Tolls, Stallage rents, &c. for four "years at the rent of £280 per ann^m." For 20 years Tillinghast continued to farm these tolls; but in 1780, the collector having "represented "his inability to pay £532 15*s*. arrears now due," and the Corporation having accepted a bond for the amount ("as he is totally unable to pay "and is in the decline of life") the leasing system was discontinued, and the tolls were collected directly by the Corporation, their official collector in 1803 receiving a salary of £73 10*s*. per annum.

annum from the corporation which had lately disfranchised him: and in that year he petitioned to give up the pension in exchange for "the fourth "part of the Toll Corne by him formerly taken, for "a reasonable rent; and the rather for his wyves "frends sake." Whereupon, thanks to the influence of the latter, it was decided, 16th July, 1591, that his pension should cease, and that he should "receive and enjoy the saide fourth part of the said "Tolle corne from yere to yere—paying therefor "yerely to this incorporation viij$^{li.}$ vj$^{s.}$ viij$^{d.}$: the "rather for his wyves frendes sake who have been "well willers and benefactors to this citie." This naively confessed bit of "jobbery" discloses the fact that in 1591 the annual value of the corn toll at Chester amounted at least to the large sum of £33 6*s.* 8*d.*, as compared with the yield of £7 6*s.* 8*d.* at Liverpool in the same year, or with the average of £7 16*s.* 6*d.* per annum on 25 years between 1590 and 1629. Randle Eaton scarcely seemed worthy of his good fortune, as in 1596 he was ordered to pay "teyne poundes rent unpayed for "the parte of the Tolle Corne market to him "demysed." In 1610, "by reason of age and "being in great infirmity of body and unable to "perform the duties devolving upon him, and "having no means," he petitioned that the fourth part of the toll corn might be granted to him as a pension, and this was agreed to. Down to this date, therefore, the corn toll generally continued to be granted to the sergeants-at-mace, in consideration mainly of their keeping the corn market-place clean.

It seems to have been shortly before 1636 that the toll was devoted to other purposes, apparently to meet the official expenses of the mayor; for in that year the sergeants complained to the assembly

of their rights, as measurers of corn, being invaded by outsiders; reminding the corporation that they then enjoyed no other benefit than the measuring of corn for keeping their several wards clean. Whether or not the mayor as yet was allotted the corn toll which they had lost does not appear, though it is clear that some such change was then made. In 1749, however, the payment of corn toll to the mayor is found to be declared a custom prevailing "time out of mind." :—

1749. 15 Novr. Whereas it manifestly appears to this House that all corn, grain, malt, flour and meal brought into this city by land or water and laid down there in the market or left or lodged in the kilns, or warehouses of either freemen or foreigners, ought, and time out of mind hath been accustomed to pay tolls for the same *to the mayor of this city for the time being* (unless the same be the property and at the risk of a freeman, before the same be brought and delivered in this city or the liberties thereof) . . . It is therefore ordered by this House that the said customary toll shall from henceforth be paid for the same to the mayor of this city for the time being, anything in the said recited order [8 Oct., 1595] contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

By this resolution we definitely reach the fact of the corn toll constituting a specific income to the mayor "time out of mind"—the usual phrase covering the duration of about a century, and apparently in this case dating back to a period very shortly before 1636, as already suggested. The toll remained assigned to the mayor for a further period of about fifty years. The order which introduced the final change seems to be not now traceable, but it was passed only shortly before 5th March, 1799. At this date a resolution of the assembly recited the fact that, "By orders of this "Assembly the mayor has [at some date not given] "been allowed a salary in lieu of the aforesaid

"Toll Corn"—a statement which brings the foregoing discursive incidents into a focus, and at the same time closes our little enquiry.[2]

[2] The further record of the corn toll is very brief. On granting a monetary allowance to the mayor, the Corporation had directed the treasurer to collect the toll, but "lately it had produced only four guineas a "year," and it was apparent the treasurer's collectors had been imposed upon. It was therefore recommended (March, 1799) that the ordinary collectors of toll should undertake the duty; but, as these persons farmed their tolls, "for which they are to pay great advanced rent," it was decided that "during their term in the tolls at the bridge and gate they "should have the toll of the aforesaid corn without being charged any "additional rent." Thus was the ancient corn toll finally given away for the mere collecting of it.

NOTES ON THE OLD HALLS OF WIRRAL.

By W. Fergusson Irvine.

Read 13th December, 1900.

THE following notes on the old halls of the Hundred of Wirral do not in the least claim to be exhaustive or complete. The endeavour of the writer has been simply to collect in a convenient compass historical particulars worthy of record, together with a short account of the architecture of some of the older houses in this neighbourhood. The title of the paper is purposely vague, and he has availed himself of its elasticity, choosing, in perhaps a somewhat arbitrary way, those houses which seemed to him to have special claims on the readers' notice.

The Hundred of Wirral does not possess any stately mansion among its older buildings, but there are still a not inconsiderable number of houses which have features of historic and architectural interest, and it is in the hope that these may become more widely known to the large population living within walking distance of them all that these notes have been compiled.

In arranging the order in which they should be treated, a beginning has been made at the north-eastern corner of the Wirral, in the parish of Wallasey. The survey has next extended up the Mersey bank to Poole Hall, from thence to

Shotwick, and so down the Dee bank, finishing in West Kirby.

LEASOWE CASTLE.

To begin, then, in the parish of Wallasey. At the western extremity of the parish, almost on the shore of the sea, stands Leasowe Castle—formerly called New Hall.

There are many mysteries concerning our old houses in Wirral, but none more difficult of explanation than those raised by the existence of this house on the Wallasey Leasowes. Try to realize what this spot was like three hundred years ago. Literally miles from the nearest hamlet, on a perfectly level pasture, half a mile from a desolate wind-swept coast. The only possible approach, a sandy track leading from the road, which joined Moreton and Bidston. Add to this, that probably for four months out of the year the floods over the low-lying land effectually barred all ingress and egress, and you have a picture of desolateness and isolation that it would be hard to equal.

The writer can offer no explanation beyond repeating the tradition, which tells us that Ferdinando, the fifth Earl of Derby, built it for hunting and hawking. It is said that the date, 1593, is to be seen cut in the interior of the tower.[1]

In shape the original building was peculiar. It consisted of a tall octagonal tower, four storeys high, with short wings projecting from each alternate facet, the whole dominated by a flat roof.

It has been suggested that this tower was used as a sort of grand-stand from which to view the races on the famous Wallasey race-course; but inasmuch as the finish of those races took place nearly two miles away, it is not a position that would commend itself to short-sighted onlookers.

1 Information of Thomas Helsby-Acton, Esq.

From the Earls of Derby, the Castle—known as the New Hall, and afterwards as Mock-beggar Hall—passed, about 1602, to the Egertons of Oulton, and at the end of the last century, by purchase, to Mr. Lewis Boode, a West Indian planter. Mr. Boode's only daughter married, in 1821, the late Sir Edward Cust, Bart., whose grandson recently sold the property to a limited company for the purpose of its conversion into an hotel.

Sir Edward Cust added very considerably to the house, one room especially being of interest, as it was fitted with panels and other appointments from the Star Chamber at Westminster. These were purchased by Sir Edward Cust at the time of the demolition of the old Exchequer Buildings in 1836. Another room in the Castle was panelled with bog oak, taken from the so-called submerged forest at Meols.

On the level pasture land between the Castle and the village, races appear to have been run from a very early date. It has indeed been asserted that Wallasey was the earliest regular racecourse in the kingdom. Perhaps this is claiming too much, but it certainly was among the earliest. In 1622 we have a definite reference to it in Webb's *Itinerary of Cheshire*, where he speaks of those "fair lands or plains upon the shore of the sea, "which for the fitness for such a purpose, allure "the gentlemen and others oft to appoint great "matches and venture no small sums in trying the "swiftness of their horses." From time to time throughout the seventeenth century we find references to the Wallasey races, which always show it as one of the leading meetings of the county, if not in the North of England.[2] In 1682, the spot was rendered famous by a visit from the ill-fated Duke of

[2] "An old Racing Stable at Wallasey," by R. D. Radcliffe, M.A., F.S.A., *Trans. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, vol. xlv, p. 141.

Monmouth, while on a tour through the northern counties in search of popularity. The first race, which the Duke won, riding his own horse, was for £60, a considerable sum in those days. After this, the Duke offered to race a certain Mr. Cutts of Cambridgeshire, on foot, first stripped and afterwards in his boots, both of which races he won.

A horse race was a very serious affair both for horse and rider at this time, as the course was usually a very long one. At Wallasey it seems to have extended for nearly five miles, running as it did from the village, out towards the Castle and back again, finishing near the present railway station. And as the races were run in heats, and a win could only be obtained by the first horse leading throughout the last 240 yards, it sometimes happened that the distance had to be traversed two or even three times. When all this is considered, our respect for the power of endurance shown by the Duke on this occasion is certainly enhanced.

Forty years later the popularity of Wallasey had so far increased, that it is said the most considerable stake in the kingdom was run for over this course. The names of the winners will give us some idea of the importance of the event. We find among them the Duke of Devonshire winning in 1725, Lord Gower in 1723 and 1730, the Duke of Ancaster in 1728, and Sir Richard Grosvenor in 1724, 1726, and 1727. About 1732 the more important events were discontinued, though for some years afterwards a race was run at Newmarket called "The Wallasey Stakes."

But if the great race was no longer run on the Leasowes, other events took place there during the latter half of the eighteenth century, as is evident from some inscriptions cut on the door of the old racing stable in Wallasey village, recently demolished. Within the circle of a horse shoe the

inscription—"Black Slave won 200 guineas at "Wallazey, 1778," was legible a few years ago, also, "Smiling Molly won 50 guineas at Walazey, "1770."

This last relic of an ancient habitat of the "sport of Kings" was destroyed five years ago, to make way for several rows of brick and mortar abominations, usually known as "desirable sub-"urban villas."

WALLASEY AND SEACOMBE HALLS.

In mediæval times there were several families of gentle rank in the parish of Wallasey, chief among them being the Meolses, of Great Meols and afterwards of Wallasey. It is not clear why this family left its ancient seat near Hoylake and moved up to the rock-land of Wallasey, but in the year 1350, in reply to an enquiry from the King, a report was made that the "site" of the manor-house of Great Meols was of no value. From this it may be inferred that some sinking of the ground or drifting of the sand had rendered the Meols property unsuitable for residence, and it is not improbable that from this occurrence dates the move to Wallasey. The Meolses held their property there under the Priory of Birkenhead, and lived close to the Church, in a fine old Hall, which was pulled down in 1862 by the Rector.[3]

Among the other possessions of the Meols family, they seem to have held a good deal of land in Seacombe, and 200 yards from the ferry still stands, though in the midst of most sordid surroundings, the old dower house of the Meols family.[4]

3 For a view of a portion of this old Hall, see vol. xliv of the *Trans. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, frontispiece.

4 Over the door is a door-plate, with the initials and date, W. P. M 1684. The initials, no doubt, represent Philip Wilson and Margaret, his wife. Margaret being one of the daughters of Thomas Meols of Wallasey, Esquire. The house is still known as Wheatland House.

Before modern life, in the shape of steam-boats and engines, invaded the district, this house must have been a charming spot, crowning the top of the bank which falls rapidly to the Mersey, and commanding a view of the majestic river and the busy seaport on the opposite bank. To-day, standing in the wreck of the old orchard, while a few dejected hens peck drearily at imaginary crumbs, and the rain drips steadily into filthy puddles by the door, one almost feels that it would be a blessing if a speculative builder would put the poor old house out of its misery and build a nice new red shop.

Let us now retrace our steps somewhat, and passing the comfortable-looking house of Mr. William Bird, of Poulton, yeoman, built in 1621, as the door-plate tells us, cross the salt marsh which used to lie between Wallasey and Bidston, threaded now though it be by numerous lines of railway.

BIDSTON.

In Bidston Hall we have a good specimen of the style of architecture in vogue at the end of the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth centuries. The Hall, as it at present stands, has a rather stunted appearance, due to the fact that, in 1818, the four gable ends which faced westward were taken down, and a single roof-ridge running north and south substituted. The gateway is rather an effective piece of work. A popular tradition in the village has it that the ornaments over the gate are intended to represent a punch-bowl and two decanters, but that an accident happened to the punch-bowl and it has never been replaced. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Vyner possesses a drawing made in 1665, in which the third ornament is complete, and this shews it to be simply another

finial, similar in character to those still remaining.[5] The house was probably built in 1620 to 1622, by William Earl of Derby, the wandering Earl, as he is popularly called. The estate was sold during the Commonwealth to William Steele, a celebrated lawyer, who subsequently became Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer and Chancellor of Ireland. Steele sold the property in 1662 to Lord Kingston, an Irish peer, who borrowed money upon it on mortgage from Sir Robert Vyner, the famous London banker. This mortgage was eventually foreclosed, and the estate consequently passed into the possession of the Vyner family, in whose hands it has since remained. The story of its having been lost and won on an ace of clubs is pure fiction.[6]

The old deer-park wall is still standing in some places, and is of great height and thickness, being about four feet thick at the base, and standing over six feet in height. This self-same wall is referred to in nearly all the leases of the Hall, back to the earliest existing one in 1609, where it is called "the "great ston wall."

The antiquity of the wall may be even greater than this, as a curious tradition in the village records the fact that its builders only received a wage of one penny a day. The name it is popularly known by among the older villagers is "The "Penny-a-day Dyke." If this story be true, it takes us back a very long way. To arrive at a period when such low wages were paid as a penny a day for dykers, we must hark back to the fourteenth century. It is interesting to note, in this

5 See "Notes on the Ancient Parish of Bidston," by W. F. Irvine, vol. xlv *Trans. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, p. 33.

6 The origin of this story is probably due to the fact that an old summer house used to stand on the rising land at the back of the Hall, built in the shape of an ace of clubs, a not uncommon conceit of the period (seventeenth century). Mr. Vyner's new house is almost on the site of the summer house, and is, therefore, called "Club House."

connection, that in 1408 a grant is recorded from the King to two Liverpool men, who held the manor of Bidston from the Stanleys, of the right to empark "with palings, *wall*, ditch or hedge, 80 acres "of their demesne, adjacent to their Manor of "Bidston." The ground enclosed by this old wall is just 80 Cheshire acres. If, as is very probable, this is the same structure, it speaks well for the workmanship of those old wall-builders, underpaid though they may have been. How many walls, one wonders, built to-day at fifty times the cost, will be standing in Wirral 500 years hence!

UPTON.

Across the fields from Bidston lay the old Hall of Upton, a possession of the family of Bold until the seventeenth century. It was pulled down, however, in the early part of the last century, and no drawing or plan seems to exist to show us its semblance. The site is occupied by the Convent school.

TRANMERE.

More fortunate, in some respects, is Tranmere. Though the old Hall shared a fate similar to that of Upton, it was not before good drawings of the building had been made by the late Mr. Joseph Mayer, the founder of the Mayer Museum at Bebington.[7]

This house seems to have been built in 1614, by George Langford of Tranmere, though its general history is rather obscure. When it was pulled down, some interesting quarrels of glass were taken from the windows, representing soldiers of the time of James I, with instructions as to the

7 See "Tranmere Hall," by Joseph Mayer, *Trans. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, vol. iii, p. 107.

use of arms, as well as several four-line verses in a lighter vein.

In the first, which may serve as an example, is a soldier in a buff jacket wearing a hat with a plume of feathers; he carries a sword and holds in his hand a musket, with a rest lying alongside the stock of the piece. He is evidently examining the priming, and the picture is inscribed, "Blow your "panne." Below this come four lines, which do not, however, appear to have any reference to the soldier:—

> This round we laughe, we drink, we eate,
> Es tells you that we wante noe meate.
> Al sorrow is in good liquor drownde
> As circle soth the cupps goe round.

These are now in the possession of the Trustees of the Mayer Museum.

PRENTON.

From Tranmere we cross to Prenton. The Hall has no specially interesting features left, though it once housed an interesting family, the Hockenhulls of Prenton, a branch of the Hockenhulls of Hockenhull, whom we shall meet again when we reach Shotwick.

The Hockenhulls came into possession of this property about the reign of Henry VIII, by marriage with an heiress of the name of Gleave, whose ancestor had obtained it by marriage with the heiress of the original family of Prenton of Prenton.

An example of the wonderful accuracy of the great Domesday Survey is to be seen in this township. In the account given in Domesday Book, mention is made of a mill which supplies the Hall, no doubt the predecessor of this very building. Now in Domesday Book a mill always means a water-mill, as wind-mills were not invented at the time. At first sight it seemed

highly improbable that a water-mill could ever have existed in this township, and yet, on a careful search being made, hidden away in a dingle, a few hundred yards from the Hall, were found the remains of a mill dam which, when complete, must have blocked the end of a little valley—through which still runs a small stream—and formed a fine sheet of water. It is a curious fact that this was the only mill in the whole Hundred of Wirral at the time of the Domesday Survey, with the exception of the famous one on Bromborough Pool.

STORETON.

Our way from Prenton to Storeton lies along an ancient lane, popularly called the Monk's Stepping Stones, also sometimes called the Roman Road. Both names are quite misleading. That an occasional monk may have stepped along these stones is quite probable, and there can be little doubt that sometimes a stray Roman may have used this very lane nearly two thousand years ago, but it has no more right to either name than any other lane in the neighbourhood. These stones were probably placed in their present position some time in the middle ages, just as stones were put in any miry spot, when the locality could afford it, in other parts of the country. They were mainly used by the heavily-laden pack horses, that carried merchandise from village to village in the days before wheeled traffic became possible.

The fanciful name of the Monk's Stepping Stones probably arose through a misconception as to the origin of Storeton Hall. This interesting house has frequently been mistaken for an ecclesiastical building, because the west window is pointed. As a matter of fact this particular arch is nothing more than a bedroom window.

Storeton Hall has special claims on our interest as the home of the undivided house of Stanley. Architecturally it is a very good specimen of a style of building prevalent during the fourteenth century. Roughly speaking, the original structure appears to have been in the shape of a letter H, and a portion of one down stroke and one wall of the cross piece still remain.

On examining the building from the south-west corner, we see the point where the wall, which formed the western side of the great hall, joined the north wing. This has since been pulled down, and the east wall of the great hall has been used as a west wall to some later farm buildings. To be more clear: the *interior* of the east wall of the great hall is now the *exterior* of a cow-house, and the original exterior of it, consequently, is now to be seen in the interior of this later building. On what is now the inside of a built-up doorway can still be seen the finely-wrought hood-moulding of the original entrance.

It is nearly certain that the Hall was built about the year 1360, by William de Stanley, whose great-grandfather, another William de Stanley, some eighty years before, had become possessed of the wardenship of the forest of Wirral and wide estates there by his marriage with Joan, daughter of Sir Philip de Bamville of Storeton. This William, who built Storeton Hall, was the father of Sir William de Stanley, Kt., who married the heiress of Sir William de Hooton, and through her obtained that township, where he subsequently settled on a property which, for nearly five centuries, continued identified with the name of Stanley.

This William had also a second son, Sir John Stanley, who married Isabella, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas de Lathom, from whom descended the illustrious houses of Stanley of Knowsley,

ennobled as Earls of Derby, and Stanley of Alderley, more recently raised to the peerage as Barons of that place.

Thus we have in Storeton the cradle of a race of men who, throughout the last five hundred years, have done much to mould the destiny of England, and have given us statesmen, scholars, diplomatists, and soldiers.

Not less interesting is the quaint little romance that surrounds the acquisition of this property by the Stanleys. Towards the end of the thirteenth century the manor of Storeton, which carried with it the head forestership of Wirral, was in the possession of one Sir Philip de Bamville, who had no sons and only three daughters, Joan, aged 18, Ellen, aged 7, and Agnes, aged 6. These three daughters, no doubt, were regarded as very desirable matches by many of the surrounding gentry, and their father evidently intended making the best of his right to gift his daughters' hands. But even in those days daughters were not always docile, as the following story will show, which may be quoted in words translated from the ancient document still preserved at the Public Record Office in London. It is the reply to an enquiry taken by the King's Escheator for Cheshire in 1284, and is given on oath by several local men. The jurors say that on the 27th of September, 1282, Philip de Bamville, with his wife and family, was at a banquet given by Master John de Stanley, on which occasion Joan, suspecting that her father intended to marry her to her stepmother's son, and not being herself at all desirous of such a match, took means to avoid it by repairing with William Stanley to Astbury Church, where marriage was contracted between them by the utterance of the following mutual promise: he saying, "Joan, I plight thee my troth to "take and hold thee as my lawful wife unto my

"life's end;" and she replying, "I, Joan, take thee, "William, as my lawful husband." The witnesses to this verbal contract being Adam de Hoton and Dawe de Coupeland.

When the property of Storeton and the Hooton estates came to be sold, in 1848, it is said that there were no title deeds of any kind, the forester's horn being the only outward and visible sign of the Stanleys' right to the broad acres with which they had so sadly to part.

BROMBOROUGH.

Storeton is in the ancient parish of Bebington, so passing through Bebington village, where the hall does not call for special mention, we come to Bromborough.

Bromborough, at an early date, seems to have been the most important centre in the Hundred. At the time of the Domesday survey, under the name of Eastham, it was by far the largest manor in the peninsula, being rated at nearly a quarter of the whole value of the Hundred.[8] It possessed jurisdiction over a very large tract of land, indeed over nearly the whole of the eastern side of the peninsula, and included Saughall Massey, Moreton, Bidston, Claughton, Birkenhead, Oxton, Tranmere, part of Bebington, the township we now call Eastham, Brimstage, Whitby, and possibly one or two other villages. All these important townships owed suit to the parent manor of Bromborough, and consequently the Court-house there, as it is still called, must have been a very important place. The whole manor had belonged, in English times, to the ill-fated Earl Edwin, and at the Conquest was retained by the Earl of Chester himself. Earl Hugh seems at once to have begun portioning it

[8] See "Cheshire in Domesday Book," by J. Brownbill, vol. xlv *Trans Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*

out among his knights, so that in a very few years he only had the lands of the townships of Bromborough and Eastham left, and these his successor Randle gave to the Monastery of St. Werburgh for the good of his soul, or, as he expressed it, to make up to the monastery for the wrongs which he had done it. At the dissolution of the religious houses, Bromborough formed part of the endowment of the new see of Chester, and one hundred years later we find the Court-house in the hands of the Hardwares, who held it on rent from the Dean and Chapter.

The Hardwares were a family who rose to an honourable position in the county through success in trade in the city of Chester. One of them appears to have built the house, as we see it, about the end of the seventeenth century. They were leading Puritans and afterwards Nonconformists. It will be remembered that Matthew Henry, the Commentator, married one of the daughters of Samuel Hardware, of Bromborough Court. The shell of the house is substantially original, but the windows have been modernized, as also the interior, which is now converted into two houses. Several instances occur of so-called seditious meetings being held in this house, and action was taken before the Bishop's Court, at Chester, against Nonconformists for attending meetings at Bromborough Court, especially to listen to the preaching of Harrison, the famous Puritan preacher who was ejected from Chester Cathedral in 1662.

Among the many points of interest at Bromborough may be mentioned its wells, one of which is said to have petrifying qualities. A well of special sanctity is known as St. Patrick's well, and is said to have been the site of some early baptisms by that famous Irish saint.

BRIMSTAGE.

Bromborough had one peculiarity among Wirral parishes, and that is that it consisted of two detached portions some distance apart; the township of Bromborough being one, and the township of Brimstage the other.

In the latter village stands the building which, next to Storeton Hall, can lay claim to the greatest antiquity in the Hundred. Brimstage Hall itself is of no very great age, but attached to it is an ancient tower of four storeys, which appears to have been built by Sir Hugh de Hulse, of Brimstage, about the year 1400. The lowest room in the tower has a stone groined roof, and is believed to have been a domestic chapel. From the Hulses the property descended, through the Troutbecks of Dunham, to the family of Talbot, whose present representative is the Earl of Shrewsbury.

HOOTON.

From Brimstage we journey to Hooton, which, for nearly five centuries, was the most important house in the Hundred.

The old Hall, taken down in 1778, must have been a very interesting and striking building. A large portion of it was of the usual Cheshire timber and plaster work, though one wing was of stone, and the whole was dominated by a remarkably slender tower of great height, which was built under a special license from the King in 1488. The Hall which took the place of this in 1778, was from the designs of Wyatt, and at the time was considered, in the words of Mr. Ormerod, "the "most elegant building of the kind which the "county" could produce. The present house was very much enlarged by the late Mr. Naylor, who

bought it in 1848. It has recently been leased to the Hooton Park Steeplechase and Racecourse Company Limited.

Of the family of Stanley mention has already been made under Storeton. The pitiful story of the dissipation of this truly splendid patrimony, there is no need to tell; but we cannot think without regret of this ancient race, who for centuries were virtual kings in Wirral, and we mourn their fall especially when we see the gently rolling park lands rented by a limited company, while down the avenues, heavy with historic memories, we hear the raucous yell of the betting tout, and see placards of a race-meeting posted on the trunk of an oak tree that heard Eastham bells ring-in King Charles the Second.

POOLE.

Poole Hall, immediately beyond Hooton, on the banks of the Mersey, as we pass towards Chester, is one of the most picturesque houses in the county. The south and east fronts are built of a soft sandstone, now grey with age; while on the other sides are some remains of timber and plaster work, apparently portions of an earlier building. Ormerod suggests that the stone part of the house was built about 1540; and this is not improbable, though it may be thirty or forty years later than this. The south front, or, to be more accurate, the south-east front, shelters what must have been a very charming old-fashioned garden, in which a picturesque sundial still stands to witness to its former graces.

The heavy embattled porch on the east side covers a massive oaken door, and gives access to a spacious hall—into which open the dining-room and other rooms, including the kitchen, where

SHOTWICK HALL, CHESHIRE

a modern range fills up what used to be a capacious ingle-nook.

Each step of the stairs is composed of a massive square block of oak, which gives us some idea of the wealth of building materials available when this structure was raised.

The Pooles, like their neighbours, the Stanleys, long remained devoted adherents to the old faith, and during the reign of Queen Elizabeth suffered much as popish recusants, to use the official phrase. In one of the turrets may still be seen the remains of the chapel, which was there set up.

SHOTWICK.

Shotwick Hall appears to have been built in 1662, by Joseph Hockenhull of Hockenhull and Shotwick, the representative of a very ancient Cheshire family of minor gentry. He was lord of the manor of Shotwick, an ancestor of his having married a Shotwick heiress. The site of the Hall, which was in use until the building of this present house, is still to be seen close to the vicarage.

The Hockenhulls appear to have lived mainly at Hockenhull, in Tarvin parish, Shotwick being usually occupied by a second son. In the room on the right of the door as one enters the house is an inscription in plaster, "$\frac{I.\ H.}{E.}$ $\frac{16}{62}$" which means Joseph Hockenhull and Elizabeth his wife, the date probably being that of the building of the house; while, between the two initials and the date, is a shield of arms incorrectly emblazoned, evidently meant for the coat armour of the families of Shotwick and Hockenhull.[9] This coat of the Hockenhulls is a curious one, being simply an

9 The coat, as it stands, is:—*Quarterly: in the first and fourth quarters a cross plain; in the second and third an ass's head erased. Crest, an animal's head* [? a buck's] *erased, pierced with an arrow barbed and flecked.*

ass's head — one wonders who selected such a curious adornment.

A predecessor of this Joseph Hockenhull has left a will, and from it we get some idea of the comparatively primitive ménage of a lesser Elizabethan squire. His legacy to his sorrowing wife consisted of "3 coverlettes, 2 payre of shets, 2 "fether beddes, one mattriss, 4 potengers of pewter "and four chargers, 2 kynes, one brasse potte, "one pan, her weryng clothes and one corrall "payre of beydes, and twenty poundes in money." He evidently attached great importance to the "corrall payre of beydes," as he leaves instructions that his wife is only to have the use of them until their eldest daughter is married, when she is to become the possessor; and in the event of the eldest daughter's death, they are to descend to the next daughter, and so on down to the youngest daughter.[10]

In a plea made in a case in the year 1499, John Hockenhull of Shotwick makes various claims as to his rights and privileges on his manor, among them being his right to take all fish of every kind in the waters of the Dee opposite Shotwick, with the exception of whale, sturgeon, and thirlehead.[11] These latter he admits he is obliged to take to Chester Castle for the Earl's use. No one has discovered, so far, among the Chester Castle documents any returns as to the number of whales rendered yearly.

PUDDINGTON.

From Shotwick we pass to Puddington, in some ways perhaps the most interesting of the old Halls

[10] *Vide* will of Ralph Hockenhull of Shotwick, "Lanc. and Chesh. Wills," edited by W. F. Irvine, *Record Soc. Lanc. and Chesh.*, vol. xxx.

[11] Thirlehead = porpoise.

of Wirral. Puddington was given at the time of the Conquest to Hamon de Massey, one of the Earl's most trusted followers. A younger son of this house eventually settled there, and the property remained in the possession of his direct descendants until the beginning of last century. Throughout the middle ages no body of Cheshire archers bound for the wars seemed complete without a Massey of Puddington; and in most of the battles of the French wars we find one at least of the family present.

A portion of the old Hall still remains, though a good deal of it has been re-cased in brick within the last two hundred years. Three sides of what seems to have been a quadrangular building are standing, and probably date from the year 1490. The house was originally moated, and two sides of the moat still remain, while the other two are clearly traceable. Entrance to the quadrangle was by an archway on the north side of the house, which was approached by a drawbridge. In the interior of the courtyard some traces are still to be seen of an open gallery, similar to the one at Agecroft Hall, near Pendleton. An interesting feature in the house is the immense chimney stack, leading up from the kitchen, built in the narrow brick, such as was used in the sixteenth century. It is said that in this stack a secret chamber was found some years ago. Many of the oak principals in the roof are of immense size and thickness.

Like nearly all the Wirral families, the Masseys, at the time of the Reformation, remained stedfast in the faith of their forefathers, and seem always to have continued not only staunch but most conscientious followers of the old way.

In a curious topical hunting song,[12] written in 1615, which is full of references to Wirral people,

[12] *Wirral Notes and Queries*, vol. ii, p. 19, Sanders and Irvine.

a hare—who is the subject of the song—tells her experience as she coursed along the Dee shore, from Thurstaston to Chester. After leaving Gayton, she tells how she went—

> O'er Burton Hill to Puddington Hall—
> There would she be bould to call—
> And [there] she hoped that she might pass,
> For he was att service, and she was at Mass.
> The hare did shoute as shee went bye,
> And out they came with a gallant cry.
> The hare did think that the world went round:
> Four huntinge hornes at once did sounde.
> She found them pastyme for a whyle,
> In a league she doubled, they lost a mile.
> To Shotwicke Parke the hare she crost,
> And then the hounds the game had lost.

Considering that this was written in 1615, when the most stringent laws were in force against Romish practices, it shows at least that, in the popular mind, Sir William and Lady Massey were not afraid to avow their religious views.

Sir William was an old man when the Civil War broke out, but together with many of the Royalist gentry he retired to Chester, leaving Puddington Hall garrisoned for the King, and remained in Chester until its fall. While besieged in the city, it seems that the Parliamentary soldiers captured Puddington and burnt a large portion of it. Sir Willliam Massey, in his petition to the Committee for Compounding,[13] estimates the damage at £1000, and says that forty bays of building were burnt. For his devotion to the Royal cause he was fined £1414, an enormous sum in those days, equal to about £12,000 of our money.

His son, Edward Massey, followed in his father's footsteps, and like many of the Roman Catholics of the wealthier classes, supported a priest in his own house. This priest was a Lancashire man named

[13] *Cheshire Sheaf*, Series III, vol. i, p. 114, Sanders and Irvine.

John Pleasington, and came from near Garstang. Edward Massey, in his will dated 7th September, 1671, leaves £5 to Mr. John Peasington, as he calls him, without describing his occupation. Pleasington appears to have been an inoffensive person, and to have lived on kindly terms with most of those with whom he came in contact, until the dreadful storm of the Popish Plot broke over the country, in 1678. When this "hellish and "damnable" conspiracy, as the hysterical House of Commons called it, was proclaimed, which existed solely in the disordered and malignant imaginations of Titus Oates and his creatures, the feeling in the country ran so high that no priest's life was safe. There can be little doubt that the secret chamber in the chimney stack at Puddington, to which reference has just been made, was frequently in use at this time. Pleasington, about this period, incurred the anger of some neighbours by opposing a marriage between one of his flock and a Protestant gentleman, with the result that information was laid against him as a Romish priest. He was seized at Puddington in the following spring, carried to Chester, tried, found guilty, and sentenced to death. He was kept in Chester Castle for nine weeks, and on the 19th July, 1679, drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution outside the city, and after a pathetic speech met his end with courage. Of the three witnesses who gave evidence against him, one was crushed to death by an accident a few days before the execution; another, we are told, died in a pigsty; while the third lingered away in a state of misery and anguish.[14]

Edward Massey's will, from which quotation has just been made, is an interesting document, while the inventory of goods which accompanies it is especially so. It shows us a house, with 23 or 24

[14] *Cheshire Sheaf*, Series III, vol. iii, p. 13, Sanders and Irvine.

rooms, if not more, and reveals the fact that various relatives, besides Edward Massey's own family, occupied apartments there. We read of "old Mr. "Richard's chamber," "Mr. Palliser's chamber," "George Antonie's chamber," "My Lady Sen "John's chamber," "the Doctor's chamber," and several others. The goods enumerated as furnishing the parlour do not show a very high state of domestic comfort. This room seems to have contained "twenty chaires, a carpet of "turkie work, two table cloths of Kittermuster, "a fire shovel, and a payre of tonges," the whole valued at £6. One wonders what they used instead of tables! His total goods were valued at £457 10*s.* 1*d.*

The most fascinating figure in the history of the Massey family is undoubtedly this man's son, William. A devout Catholic, we meet with him constantly in the pages of Bishop Cartwright's diary.[15] From the entries in this interesting document, William Massey seems to have been of a proselytizing disposition. His desire to comfort and cheer his fellow religionists sometimes led him into difficulties. We learn from the diary that Lady Grosvenor, who was an earnest Catholic, corresponded with him a good deal, much to the annoyance of Sir Thomas Grosvenor, who was a staunch Protestant, and frequent quarrels resulted; and in the end a *modus vivendi* was arrived at, through the intervention of the Bishop. The terms were these:—There was to be no public discourse of religion when Mr. Massey came to Eaton, but my lady was to be permitted to enjoy hers in private, she, however, not writing to Mr. Massey without showing it to her husband. This Lady Grosvenor was Mary

15 *Diary of Bishop Cartwright*, Camden Society.

Davies, the heiress, who brought so many broad acres in the city of Westminster to the Grosvenor family, which have since yielded such a golden harvest to their owners. She seems to have had a troubled life, and eventually went out of her mind and died in very sad circumstances.

But to return from this digression. Mr. Massey never married,[16] and is said to have thrown all his energies into politics and religion. In 1683, during the disturbances which followed the discovery of the Rye House Plot, he appears to have come in for a good deal of suspicion, as among Lord Kilmorey's papers we find mention of a writ being issued to search the house of Mr. Massey, of Puddington, for concealed arms.[17] His great opportunity came, however, in 1715, when the rising took place in Lancashire in favour of the Pretender. This rising never had in it the elements of success, and the way in which the Catholic gentry of Lancashire and Cheshire threw themselves into it does more credit to their courage than their judgment. William Massey was present at most of the secret Jacobite meetings in South-west Lancashire before the coming of the Pretender, and when the Highland army swept over the Border and the Pretender was proclaimed King at Lancaster, William Massey hastened to join his standard. The triumph was short-lived, and on the 14th November, when the rebel army surrendered at Preston, William Massey is said by tradition to have escaped in the early morning on a favourite horse, and ridden

16 It will be noticed that, in this account, the writer has departed from the usually accepted pedigree, printed in Ormerod (Helsby's edition), vol. ii, p. 591. In that pedigree, the William Massey—son of Edward Massey, died 1674—is made to marry, and is credited with a son William, who died unmarried in 1716. The writer believes that there was only one William, namely, the son of Edward, and that he died unmarried, or, at all events, without issue, in 1716.

17 *Hist. MS. Com.*, 10th Report, App. iv, p. 363.

southward for his life. Tradition tells how he rode without slacking rein until he reached Speke Hall, and knowing that the ferry at Runcorn was closely watched, he tried the desperate course of swimming the Mersey between Speke and Hooton, a distance of three miles.[18] According to a contemporary plan, even if he chanced on a spring tide, at dead low water, he would have to swim his horse at two channels, each half-a-mile wide, in one of which the depth was two fathoms and in the other one fathom. From Hooton he is said to have pushed on without a pause to Puddington Hall, having ridden over forty-five miles without a break, a wonderful performance for a man of nearly 60 years of age. The faithful horse, that had carried its master so bravely, fell dead as it was being led into the stable, being buried where it lay, and three broad flagstones still mark the spot, a spot held sacred to this day, no tenant being permitted to move these stones, whatever other changes he may work. William Massey is said to have hurried up to his room and flung himself into bed, calling the family doctor to his bedside to complete the effort at concealment, as the agents of the law, coming from Chester, thundered at the door of Puddington Hall. The efforts, however, were unavailing; he was seized, as Father Pleasington had been thirty years before, and thrown into the noisome cells at Chester Castle. Here he lingered for a few months, until his death in the following February, almost exactly three months from the date of the surrender of Preston.

[18] It has been pointed out that Mr. Massey might have crossed the Mersey at Hale ford, but the tradition specially mentions that he emerged at Hooton. Had he crossed from Hale, the landing would have taken place at Frodsham, if not at Weston. In either case, a long and difficult ride would be necessary over the Frodsham and Stanlow marshes. It is said that formerly a ford existed at Oglet, beyond Speke, which was in use within the memory of man. This is more probably the course he adopted.

A little time ago, the writer had in his hands the tattered remnants of the will which William Massey drew up a week before his death. His signature is a pitiful scrawl, speaking eloquently to the truth of the preamble, where he describes himself as "sick "and weak in body, though of sound mind and "memory." Attached to the will is a codicil, which he made the day following, but here are further signs of his weakness, as he has only strength to make a shaky cross, against which the attorney has written, "the letters of the said "William Massey."

William Massey had never married, and so by his will he left Puddington and some other real estate to his little godson, Thomas Stanley, son of Sir Richard Stanley of Hooton, an infant of only a few weeks. When this Thomas grew up, he joined the Society of Jesus, and so assigned Puddington to his elder brother John, who assumed the name of Massey, and built the New Hall in or about the year 1760. From him it descended to Sir Richard Bulkeley of Beaumaris, who sold the property a few years ago. The New Hall was burnt down about forty years ago, only two of the wings being saved; these stand to the north of the old Hall.

WILLASTON.

Willaston must have been an important village in early times, as at the date of the Domesday Survey, and for some time afterwards, the Hundred was called Willaston Hundred. From this fact we gather that the central governing body—the Hundred Court, as it was called—used to meet at Willaston. Curiously enough, the village itself is not referred to by name in the survey, though mention is made of a small manor called Edlaw, a name which is embalmed in our modern railway

station, Hadlow Road. This manor, like the great manor of Eastham, was held by the unfortunate Earl Edwin.

There is not much said about it in Domesday, for when the Normans came they found it waste, as were so many of the villages round Chester, owing to their stubborn resistance. But with one of those little touches of local colour that sometimes light up the great survey, it is added: "The "Earl found it waste. But a man is now plough-"ing there and he pays two shillings."

We do not know at what date the village straggled along the road up towards the present site. Hadlow must have been half a mile nearer Burton. It may have happened when the land began to come into cultivation again after the desolation of the Norman conquest. It certainly took place at an early date, and the manor remained vested in the family of Trussel and its descendants until the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when their representative, the Earl of Oxford, sold it in several portions. One of these shares was bought by Hugh Bennett of Willaston, a wealthy yeoman—a distant relative of the founder of the Bennett Charity at West Kirby. Hugh Bennett, in 1558, built the house which is now known as Willaston Hall. The date, 1558, and the initials H.B., which are to be seen cut in stone over the door, have only been added recently, and though, no doubt, a correct statement of fact, are rather misleading.

LEIGHTON.

Very little is now left of Leighton Hall, which must, however, have been an important house at one time. Its chief claim to interest lies in the fact that the park, sloping down from the Hall to the Dee side, seems to have given rise to

the name Parkgate, a port which only rose into prominence at the end of the seventeenth century.

Leighton Hall was for some centuries the home of the family of Hough, of Leighton and Thornton Hough. This family ended in an heiress in Queen Elizabeth's reign, who carried the property to her husband, William Whitmore, second son of Whitmore of Thurstaston. Here the male line failed again; and William Whitmore's only daughter carried the property into the family of Savage, of Rock Savage, near Runcorn. Her son, Darcy Savage, built the Hall, the remnants of which still remain. In the courtyard can be seen a stone, with the initials, $_{D.}{}^{S}{}_{A.}$ (which stand for Darcy Savage and Anne, his wife) over the date, 1665. A third time the line failed; and Bridget, the only daughter of Darcy Savage, married Sir Thomas Mostyn of Mostyn, in whose family the property remained until last century, when Lord Mostyn sold it to Mr. Johnston, the uncle of the present owner.

GAYTON.

In Gayton Hall we find the original home of the Glegg family in Wirral, from whence spread the Gleggs of Caldy Grange, the Gleggs of Irby, and the Gleggs of Tranmere. Where they came from before 1380—at which date Gilbert Glegg married the heiress of Gayton, Joan Merton, and settled in Wirral—is not known. It has been suggested that they were Cleggs of Clegg Hall, in Rochdale, but this is merely a guess.

It is sufficient for our purpose that they were the most important family on the west side of the peninsula, and held their estates in unbroken male descent until the death of William Glegg, in 1758, when the property passed to the Baskervyles of Old Withington, near Manchester, who assumed the

name of Glegg, and are still the owners of the Hall and manor.

The house is really older than it looks, having been re-cased in brick about 150 years ago. The two trees on the lawn in front of the Hall are known as William and Mary, having been planted in commemoration of a visit paid in 1689, when William III, on his way to Ireland, stayed for a night at Gayton Hall, and knighted William Glegg, the then owner.

At an earlier period the Gleggs, unlike their neighbours the Stanleys and Masseys, seem to have shewn strong Puritan leanings, and during the Civil War took a somewhat active part on the side of the Parliament.

William Glegg, the grandfather of the man who was knighted in 1689, gives an interesting account of his behaviour during the Civil War, in some evidence which he tendered in a case before the Court of Sequestrators for Wirral in 1649.[19]

He tells how he was seized at his own house, Gayton Hall, by a troop of horse, taken to Chester, and confined in the castle. The effect of the imprisonment was so detrimental to his health, that he was obliged, as he expresses it, to "ransom "himself" out of prison by paying £38, besides his fees and charges in prison. He returned to Gayton Hall, but a second time a troop of horse came from Chester and carried him away, as well as his son William, who was subsequently Rector of Heswall. He complains especially that the soldiers came "derectely to my chamber so that I "had not time to put on my clothes. They also," he writes, "took away my wife's and children's "clothes and everything they could carry away. "They took seven of our horses with the saddles, "and my poor wife and children had much trouble

[19] *Cheshire Sheaf*, Series III, vol. i, p. 14, Sanders and Irvine.

"saving the kine." This time he was seven weeks in prison, and only succeeded in getting out by being exchanged for Sir Nicholas Byron, a celebrated Royalist. After this, he adds: "I was at "home [at Gayton] in such great feare, for they "still threatened to make me a prisoner again, that "I scarce lay any night in my bed. [But one "night as I did so] the forces from Chester came to "my house. I sprang out of bed, took my clothes "in my hand, ran out and lay down in a corn field, "and so I praise God skaped their hands."

In the grounds of Gayton Hall still stands one of the two remaining columbaria, or dove-cots, in the Hundred of Wirral, bearing the date 1663. The other is at Puddington Old Hall. The privilege of possessing a dove-cot was very highly prized in the middle ages, and was one of the many causes of discontent among the peasantry. The sole right of keeping pigeons vested usually in the lord of the manor, and he exercised it to the full, often keeping thousands of birds, which wrought sad havoc among the crops of his tenantry. They formed a welcome addition to the manorial larder, however, during the autumn and early winter. Some pointed gables at the back of the house show signs of earlier work than the refaced front.

OLDFIELD.

A short walk to the north brings us to a curious isolated little house, or rather two houses under one roof, known as Oldfield. Small though it is, this building is a Manor House, and while quite innocent of any features of architectural interest, is not altogether without historic associations, as it was to this house that Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton, one of the most famous Cheshire knights of Elizabeth's day, retired in his extreme old age after

marrying his third wife, Joan Brown of Capenhurst. Here the old veteran died in 1614, aged, so his epitaph in Eastham Church tells us, 96 years.[20]

One cannot help pondering over the wonderfully varied experiences with which this distinguished man must have met. As a boy he saw the dissolution of the monastic houses, and all the religious turmoil of the reigns of Henry VIII and Edward VI. He was still quite a young man when Queen Mary ascended the throne. Twice at least during her reign we find him leading a detachment of Cheshire archers to the wars. In his early middle life he saw Elizabeth take the place of her fanatical sister, and though Sir Rowland was no friend of the Reformation, he appears to have escaped most of the penalties, in spite of his adherence to the old faith. In 1576 he was made Sheriff of the county, an office which was much coveted at this time, and a dozen years later he contributed the by no means trifling sum of £100 towards arming the country to meet the Spanish Armada. He was growing old now, but seems to have retained his full faculties to the last, and no doubt watched Elizabeth's closing years with the keenest eyes. He saw her die, and yet another reign begin, and not until James had been ten years on the throne did the old man meet his end, in this quiet farmhouse on the hill side, looking out across the sands of Dee.

IRBY.

Turning inland a little we find Irby Hall. Before restoration, one of the most picturesque farmhouses in the county, even now it has many attractive features.

20 This is a curious example of the tendency of old men to exaggerate their age. It is abundantly clear from other evidence, *e.g.*, Inq. P.M. of William Stanley, 38 Henry VIII, and a suit in the Bishop's Court, concerning Stanlow Tythes, where Sir Rowland gives his age, that he must have been born about 1524, and, therefore, would only be between 89 and 90 at the time of his death.

IRBY HALL, CHESHIRE

Before Restoration

The house has an interesting history. As far back as the year 1093, the manor of Irby was presented by the Earl of Chester to the Abbey of St. Werburgh in Chester, and became one of its four principal manor houses. These, by a later charter, were required to be of sufficient size to receive the Abbot and his retinue when he came to hold his Court. We have already seen one of these houses at Bromborough, and like it, this grange was also moated, as a protection against the marauding Welsh. A considerable portion of the moat remains, and in one place it is still sixteen feet in depth, when measured from the apex of the bank to the bottom of the ditch.

At the dissolution of the monasteries, Irby was held by Sir Richard Cotton; from him it passed, by sale, through the Harpers and Leighs, to Edward Glegg of Caldy Grange, who left it to a younger son, of the same name. From him it descended to the present owner, Mr. Birkenhead Glegg of Backford.

The house was considerably altered a few years ago, and though it then lost much of its picturesqueness, is still a charming old place. The stone portion at the back is practically unaltered, and gives us a very good example of the substantial kind of chimney which our ancestors loved to build.

The outhouses are also picturesque, especially a barn with the pretty curved gables that are typical of late Stuart architecture.

THURSTASTON.

From Irby it is a short walk across the fields to Thurstaston.

Thurstaston, like Irby, has a history extending over many centuries. At the Conquest, it was granted by William to his trusty follower, Robert of Rhuddlan, whose heroic death, in 1088, is related

so graphically by the old chroniclers. Odericus Vitalis tells how Lord Robert lay resting at high noon, on a hot July day, between the twin hills of Deganwy, where stood one of his castles.[21] He had taken off his armour and wore only his tunic. As he lay there he suddenly heard the distant sounds of armed men, and springing up, saw below him a band of Welsh pirates landing on the shore. Without waiting to don his armour, he seized his sword, and shouting to a single knight to follow, rushed down on the marauders. The fight was short but fierce. Surrounded by the Welsh, he was overpowered by superior numbers, and sank under a rain of blows, not, however, before he had made the robbers pay dearly in life and limb. Odericus tells us that his death was mourned far and wide, by both French and English.

At his death the property seems to have passed to a family who assumed the local name, and became Thurstastons of Thurstaston. From them it passed, by marriage, to the Heswalls, and again, by marriage, to the Whitmores, a family of Chester merchants, who rose to prominence about 1360. The Whitmores, after making a fortune in trade, did what has been done once or twice since, even in our own day—married into the county. The property remained in this family until the beginning of the present century. The Hall and part of the land is now the property of Mr. Birkenhead Glegg of Backford.

The Hall appears to have been built at different times. One portion may be as early as the fifteenth century, but the rest is much later, the west wing being built about 1680. The front, as we now have it, probably dates from about the year 1700, of which period the front door is characteristic, while the east wing is quite modern.

[21] *Vide* Freeman's *William Rufus*, vol. i, p. 123.

Elizabeth Whitmore, a daughter of Edward Glegg of Gayton, who died in 1663, seems to have added some portion to the house, as in her will, dated 1662, now at Chester, she specially states that she is leaving a certain sum to her son William, which was evidently less than he anticipated, because, she explains, "I have expended and disbursed "several summes of money in repairing, re-edifying "and new-building of the manor-house of Thurst-"aston and outhouses thereto belonging."

Her will is an interesting one, and in the inventory of goods which accompanies it we have several curious glimpses into her household arrangements. The house evidently consisted of about fourteen rooms. We hear of the parlour, the hall, the nearer hall, the buttery, the dairy house, the nursery, the green chamber, the red chamber, M^rs. Whitmore's chamber, M^rs. Glegg's chamber, and "the "garratt," as well as the brewhouse and the kitchen. The list of furniture in the parlour may be of interest. There were 20 Russia Leather chaires, valued at 5*s.* a chaire, one red cloth chaire, one childes chaire, one court cupboard, one round table, four carpets, one clocke, three cushions, and one picture and frame, the latter item valued at 2*s.* 6*d.*

There is only space to mention another list, and this is the furniture of the nursery. It may be added that there must have been three children still in the nursery state at this time, and they are provided for as follows:—"One bedstead and "curtains, two course flock beds, two course "caddockes (a caddock was a rough kind of worsted "blanket or coverlet), one bolster, one spelken "basket (*i.e.*, a basket made of split wood, like a "modern baker's basket), and a wooden chest;" the total value of the furniture of this desolate apartment amounted to £1 1*s.* 6*d.*

The Whitmores, like most of the Wirral gentry, were staunch adherents to the old faith, and frequently appear as the subjects of heavy fines at the hands of the authorities. Valentine Whitmore commanded a company of foot during the siege of Chester, needless to say on the Royalist side, and was fined very heavily by the Committee of Sequestrators.

Thurstaston Hall has a reputation, common to many of our old houses, of possessing a supernatural visitant. At the risk of repeating a time-worn tale, and one which may be familiar to many, its outline may be given, as it possesses several features which single it out from the ordinary ghost story.

The following account is from a lady who lived in Thurstaston Hall within a year or two of the events recorded, and personally knew most of the actors in the story. The facts are as follows:—

A well-known and successful portrait painter was staying at Thurstaston Hall some years ago, during the execution of a commission on which he was engaged: the painting of the portrait of a member of the family then renting the Hall. He occupied the room which opens on to the stairs, on the left hand side as one ascends the topmost flight. The artist slept in this room for some time without being disturbed, until very early one morning he heard the door open, and on lifting his head to see the cause, espied a little old woman wringing her hands in evident distress. She came forward and stood at the foot of his curtained four-post bedstead without speaking, and though he spoke to her, saying something to the effect that she seemed in great trouble, and asking if he could help her in any way, she passed round to the other side of the room, pulled a bell-rope, and vanished.

The artist had the same experience several times afterwards, and although he felt it to be super-

natural, he became so used to it as to lose all sense of fear; and on one occasion made a rough sketch of the apparition, which he completed afterwards from memory. A copy of this is in the possession of the lady from whom this information comes.

The curious part of the story, however, is the sequel. Some time after this a gentleman, acquainted with the details of this story, was staying with some people in another part of England whose ancestors had once occupied Thurstaston Hall, and to his surprise he recognised that one of their family portraits was identical with the sketch of the apparition made by the artist. It then transpired that, according to a family tradition, the subject of the portrait was supposed to haunt Thurstaston Hall. When these facts were related to the artist, he solemnly declared that he had previously neither heard of the family nor of the legend connected with it, and had, of course, never seen the portrait in question.

GREASBY.

At Greasby is a picturesque old house, which appears to have been built by a family of the name of Radcliffe, and from them to have descended, or been sold, to the ubiquitous Gleggs.

Close to, at the top of the hill, on the right hand side of the road as one comes from Upton, stands another interesting old house, which, unfortunately, from an artistic point of view, has recently been re-roofed. Over the porch is a stone, bearing the date, 1680, and the inscription, $\frac{I.W.}{M.}$ which stands for Joseph and Mary Warton.

NEWHOUSE.

Moving across to another part of the old parish of West Kirby, we may visit another of the old

manor houses, Newhouse by name. The building is sufficiently uninteresting-looking as it at present stands, but a drawing among Mr. Vyner's papers, dated 1663, shows it at that time as a house with two steep gables facing south. As at Bidston Hall, these have been removed at some time, and a single line of roof, running east and west, substituted.

Over the doorway is still visible, though nearly obliterated by weathering, a coat of arms of the family of Bennett.[22]

The house was originally built by one of the Coventrys, an old Chester family. They continued to hold it for some time, until William Coventry identified himself too closely with the Parliamentary party during the Civil War. He acted, in fact, as one of the sequestrators for Wirral, and, consequently, incurred very violent opposition, which seems to have led to his being obliged to leave the district at the Restoration, as we find him, in 1660, selling the property to Thomas Bennett of Newton, whose arms, as has just been said, are still to be seen over the door. Thomas Bennett, dying without children, left this house and lands to the charities of West Kirby.

GRANGE.

The township of West Kirby, at the time of the Conquest, appears to have been included in the manor of Great Caldy. This was granted at an early date to the Abbey of Basingwerk, and though the monks of Basingwerk lost the advowson of the church, they retained their temporal possessions

[22] The coat of Bennett of Saughall Massey was: *Argent, two bars gules, a bordure engrailed sable.* It is still possible to make out the two bars, and in one or two places scraps of the bordure are still visible to the believing eye

until the dissolution of the monasteries. The history of Caldy Grange is very obscure for some time after this, but at the beginning of the seventeenth century we find the manor in the possession of the Gleggs, who continued to hold it until about seventy years ago, when it was sold to Mr. John Shaw Leigh of Liverpool.

About this time the Hall was taken down, and a farmhouse built on the site. There is practically nothing of the original building left, and only a portion of the old avenue still stands, though all traces even of the road that led between the still beautiful trees has long since disappeared.

And to what does all this take us? One cannot, I think, ponder the stories of varied fortune which we have read, without being impressed, first of all, by a sense of change. One by one the old families have died out; new ones have risen, only in their turn to pass into oblivion. It is a fact worthy of mention, that of all the old houses we have just been considering, not one is now occupied by a family that has been there for more than a generation [23]

The men have changed. But the same fields are with us to-day that a thousand years ago gave up their yearly treasure to our English forefathers. We get a few more bushels of wheat to the acre, the cattle that graze on the rich pasture lands scale a little heavier, but the fields are the same, nay, we might even say that the hedgerows are the same. The cattle go out and come home at evening along the lanes that have been worn by the footsteps of fifty generations. Sunshine and shower play over the fields just as they did before the Norman William came. But where are the families of even a

[23] Except Oldfield.

hundred years ago? The Stanleys, the Pooles, the Gleggs, the Houghs, and the Whitmores. All are gone; and the broad acres that knew them, know them no more.

But, if they have gone, can we not truly say that their places have been taken by men as worthy as they? If the old English squire has faded before the push and energy of a great mercantile community, we have no right to grieve. It is not another race that has taken their place; it is the same blood, though perchance it runs less sluggishly. If the land becomes theirs by conquest of peace, and not of war, should we not rather rejoice? It is not always an unmixed evil to find new men on old acres.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF SURNAMES IN LANCASHIRE IN THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES.

By Lt.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A.

Read 5th December, 1901.

IT was not until the beginning of the sixteenth century that surnames were anything like universally adopted in Lancashire. Prior to that date, and in some cases long after it, people were distinguished by adding to the Christian name the name of the place where they lived, or the trade which they followed; consequently in every parish we find such names as John of the Wood, William the Miller, Robert of the Holt, and a host of others referring to the manor, sub-manor, and other place-names peculiar to that district.

In the guild-roll of burgesses of Preston in 1459, about 70 per cent. only had surnames, but in 1542 every individual on the roll had a surname.

When all the early parish registers of the county are printed, a critical comparison of them will show, in a wonderful way, the origin and distribution of the various surnames now in use. Although the Lancashire Parish Register Society is rapidly proceeding with this work, it will necessarily be many years before it is complete; in the meantime, much valuable information may be gleaned from the materials at hand.

The registers of Whittington, a parish in the extreme north-east of Lancashire, are in print (A.D. 1538 to 1764), and illustrate, in a remarkable

degree, what a large percentage of the inhabitants took their names from the places in the parish, and which names were of Anglo-Saxon or Danish origin. Amongst the most common are, Cornthwaite, Douthwaite, Hebblethwaite, Allanby, Battersby, Caysbie, Kirby, Borthrigg, Eckrigg, and Mansergh; all these are place-names, and the families, so called generation after generation, continued to live in the same parish.

Surnames derived from trade, as might be expected in this purely agricultural district, are rare, but still we find Millers, Smiths, Turners, and Wallers.

On the Lancashire side of Windermere lake, and within four miles of the northern boundary of the county, lies the parish of Hawkshead. Its registers have been printed from 1568 to 1704. Although Hawkshead and Whittington are only twenty miles apart, many of the surnames most common in the one are entirely absent in the other. For example, at Hawkshead there are no Allanbys, Battersbys, Caysbies, or Ackriggs. The terminative "thwaite" is common in both parishes, but, as is only to be expected, with a different prefix, for its original meaning is a cleared place, or a field rescued from the surrounding waste.

The most common name in Hawkshead is Braithwaite; in the registers, between the dates named, William Braithwaite occurs 500 times. There are also plenty of Cowperthwaites, Postlethwaites, and Sutterthwaites; amongst the other place-names are Holme, Kirkby, Newby, Rigge, Sandys, Sawrey, and Scale; other very common surnames here are Ashburner, Knipe, and Mackreth. An Ashburner was one who made charcoal for the "Bloomeries" in the Furness district. A branch of the Fleming family was settled here in the sixteenth century. About a dozen miles south of Hawkshead is

Ulverston, both parishes being in Lonsdale, north of the Sands.

The volume of Ulverston registers containing the years 1614 to 1653 is lost, but with this exception and a gap or two here and there, they are complete from 1545 to the present day, and have been printed down to 1812. In this parish we still find Braithwaite and Postlethwaite, but in addition are other thwaites, such as Crosthwaite, Brandthwaite, and Lewthwaite; among the most common surnames here are Gawith, Towers, Ormandy, Fleming, Fell, and some of the names found in Hawkshead and Whittington; there are only a few trade names, such as Cowhird, Hirdson, Asburner, Kilner, Tubman, Cowper, Turner, and Wright.

We must now go forty miles south and cross the Ribble before we reach a parish the early registers of which have been printed. The Lancashire Parish Register Society has just issued the registers of Croston from 1543 to 1680, and the index to the volume shows, in a forcible manner, what a large proportion of the surnames in the parish were derived from places in the immediate district, and how tenaciously the various families lingered near the place from which they derived their names.

Amongst the surnames which were most common in the parish, and which were absolutely unknown in Whittington, Hawkshead, or Ulverston (being all derived from places in or near Croston), were Abram, Allerton, Beconsall, Charnock, Croston, Tarleton, Garstang, Hough, Whittle, Worthington, Wigan, Leyland, and Sharples. The following surnames frequently occur here, and are all absent from the three northern registers, viz., Armitriding, Banister or Banistre, Baxtandine, Cawdry, Disley, Snart, Stananough, Rutter, Rydings, Droning, Finch, Fazackley, Hodges, Hunt, Idam, Jump,

Lapage, Lapfinch, Waterworth, Wignall, Harsnep, and Stopforth. Of trade names there are Sadler, Leadbeater, Arrowsmith, Badger, Cook, Cowper, Draper, Fidler, Fletcher, Fisher, Glover, Hawker, Mason, Mercer, Miller, Nailor, Roper, Webster, Smith, and Wright. Rimmer, a name almost peculiar to this district, occurs several times, and at the present day is one of the commonest names in Southport. It owes its origin to the peculiar geological formation of the neighbourhood, which is peat bog covered with sand, and the upper part of the bog is locally known as "Ream." (See *Notes and Queries*, 8th s., vol. ix.)

The adjoining parish to Croston is Leyland, and its registers have been printed by the Record Society; but, unfortunately, they only begin in 1652, and are printed to 1710. As might be expected, there is not any very great difference in the bulk of the local surnames. If we had the Leyland register for 1543 to compare with those of Croston of the same date, the variations would doubtless be much more marked; but even as it is there are many names common in the one parish and entirely absent in the other. Amongst the very common names in Croston are Waring, Gradell, Droning, Cance, and Carr, but these do not once appear at Leyland, and the less common surnames of Lapage, Lapfinch, Godbere, Backhouse, Backhurst, and Charles are also absent. On the other hand, there were many families at Leyland which were unrepresented at Croston; for example, Andlesark, Withnel, Boardman, Calderbank, Litherland, Moulden, Ruddlesworth, Okenshaw, Sheardley, Standish, Breres and Brining; the two latter may be traced as having migrated from Preston and Kirkham in the seventeenth century.

Of the parishes in West Derby Hundred, the registers of Leigh have been printed from 1558 to

1625, edited by Canon Stanning, M.A.; Walton-on-the-Hill, 1586 to 1663; and Wigan, 1580 to 1625, published by the Lancashire Parish Register Society. To Wigan, attracted, no doubt, by the developing trade, families from the surrounding parishes came to live in considerable numbers; but for all that, the majority of the names most frequently recurring show a local origin, such as Aspull, Orrell, Pilkington, Platt, Aughton, Culshaw, Ford, and Ince, not one of which finds a place in any of the registers from which we have quoted. The parish of Leigh adjoins that of Wigan, and there are very few surnames in the register of one which are not also in the other; but in neither are found the family names so common in the extreme north of the county.

Although Liverpool formed part of the parish of Walton-on-the-Hill, there was in the town the chapel of St. Nicholas, which certainly dates back to the middle of the fourteenth century. The registers preserved at St. Nicholas' only begin in 1660, but there are transcripts at Chester beginning in 1604; the registers of Walton-on-the-Hill cannot, therefore, be accepted as furnishing conclusive evidence as to Liverpool surnames, but a few interesting points may nevertheless be deduced therefrom.

Amongst the families which took their names from the townships, are the Formbys, Bootles, Linacres, Fazakerleys, Kirbys, Kirkdales, Waltons, and Litherlands. As might be expected at a sea-port town, there are many unfamiliar names (which the registers of St. Nicholas' will, no doubt, increase) such as Adicat, Aslin, Blevin, Brentnal, Dunstan, Gazcoine, Grimosin, Larking, and Whicke. A careful study of the Walton registers leads to the conclusion that early in the seventeenth century a gradual influx of families into the neighbourhood

of Liverpool took place, and that most of them came to stay, and thus the population became mixed. Anyone familiar with Lancashire surnames will easily recognize the settlers in Walton who came from other parts of the county. For example, we find the first Aspinall in 1632; Chadwick does not occur until 1666; Parkinson in 1630; and Webster in 1654. Chadwick is an extremely common Rochdale name, and Parkinson equally common in the Fylde district.

In the eastern division of Lancashire we have, in the Hundred of Blackburn, the register of Burnley printed to 1653, and Whalley to 1601; and in the Hundred of Salford the register of Bury to 1616, Didsbury to 1757, and Rochdale to 1641. The registers of Oldham are in print down to 1661, but, being unindexed, are useless for purposes of comparison.

At Burnley we again find a change in the nomenclature, and instead of such terminations as thwaite, rigg, bye, and sergh, we have ton, den, worth, royd or rod, ham, greave, ley, and ing. The commonest surnames here are nearly all local place-names; amongst them are Barcroft, Briarcliffe, Burnley, Clayton, Eastwood, Eckroyd, Habergham, Heap, Hindle, Hurstwood, Ormerod, Pilling, Hargreaves, Townley, and Whitaker, the latter occurring over 1,000 times in the registers; and not one of these names is found in the registers of Whittington, Hawkshead, or Ulverston; and except Clayton, Townley, and Whitaker, they are unrepresented at Croston; and none of them appear at Wigan except Clayton and Townley; and, on the other hand, very few of the names common in the northern parishes are found in the Burnley register.

As Rochdale and Bury are adjoining parishes, the same surnames one would expect to be common in both, but this only obtains to a certain extent.

For more equitable comparison, we will take the register of Bury from 1590 to 1616, and Rochdale, 1582 to 1616. The commonest name in Bury is Kay, which occurs over 800 times, whilst in Rochdale the name is only found about 80 times. More than 360 entries referring to the Nuttall family appear in Bury, and only about 60 in Rochdale.

The following list shows the frequency with which the twelve most common names occur at Rochdale between the dates specified:—Butterworth 874, Schofield 770, Holt 747, Chadwick 652, Taylor 612, Milne 582, Kershaw 495, Brierley 492, Clegg 490, Hallowes 400, Whitworth 350, Stott 285. These names are all found at Burnley and Bury, but at Wigan (which is only about 20 miles from Rochdale) none of them, except Taylor, Chadwick, and Hallowes, appear in the register between 1580 and 1625. At Croston, the only two of the twelve are Kershaw and Taylor; at Ulverston all are absent except Taylor and Clegg; whilst at Whittington and Hawkshead, Taylor is the only one which occurs.

The registers of Whalley are printed from 1518 to 1601, and a comparison between them and the Burnley registers does not show a very remarkable difference in the family names, as the latter parish may be said to be part of the former. There are, however, a few names which are not common to both. The following names were common at Whalley, but were unrepresented at Burnley: Alston, Carny, Crombock, Hesketh, and Lorrimer; whilst at Burnley there were Acroyd, Barnes, Birtwisle, Boothman, Briercliffe, Burnley, Catterall, Haberghan, Hitchon, Ormerod, Pullan, Pilling, and Schofield, of which not a single entry occurs at Whalley. Many of the very common names in Rochdale, Wigan, and Bury, were totally unrepresented at Whalley.

The Didsbury registers are in print from 1561 to 1757. The church itself is on the extreme south of the Hundred, and close to the Cheshire boundary; it served an extensive district, including several Manchester townships. The index has not yet appeared, but a casual glance suffices to show that the registers contain many of the names common in Rochdale, Bury, and Burnley, as well as surnames which originated in the district, and which were unknown in the northern part of the county; of these are Chorlton, Didsbury, Shalcross, Mosley, Davie, and Higginbottam; such terminatives as thwaite, rigg, bye, and sergh being entirely absent, as well as many of the names so common in Wigan, Croston, Burnley, and the other registers which we have quoted.

The particulars which we have been able to glean from these printed and indexed registers, show in a very forcible manner how seldom our Lancashire ancestors, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, migrated from one parish to another, but where they were born they lived, died, and were buried.

No doubt, as it was with the families whose names were derived from places, so it was with these derived from their trade or occupation, and were it possible to obtain proof, it would be found that the Smiths and Taylors of the South of Lancashire, were in no way related to their namesakes of the Hawkshead or Ulverston.

NOTES ON THE PARISH OF WOODCHURCH.

By W. F. Irvine and F. C. Beazley.

Read 28th March, 1901.

THE ancient parish of Woodchurch occupies the centre of the northern part of the peninsula of Wirral, and is nearly 5,000 acres in extent. In the old parish were included the nine townships of Woodchurch, Landican, Knocktorum, Arrow, Oxton, Thingwall, Barnston, Pensby, Prenton, and a portion of the townships of Irby, Upton, and Claughton. The following notes, however, only deal with the township of Woodchurch, the history of the advowson, and with the structure of the church.

A good deal of misunderstanding, on the subject of the original location of the church of Woodchurch, seems to exist, owing, no doubt, to the fact that in Domesday Book a priest is mentioned at Landican, while the name Woodchurch does not appear at all. One consequently hears the statement sometimes made that the original church was at Landican. There can, however, be no question that the church, at which the Domesday Book "priest" served, occupied the precise site of the present building. If no other proof

were forthcoming, the small early Norman window in the north side of the chancel is sufficient evidence of the fact. The explanation of the entry appears to be as follows:—Landican was a head manor of considerable importance, to which various sub-manors, such as Pensby, Irby, and possibly Arrow, owed suit. At the time of the Conquest there was probably no sub-manor of Woodchurch; the site of the present township simply being part of the large manor of Landican. Very soon after the making of the Great Survey, however, some lands in the immediate vicinity of the church were granted to the Abbey of St. Werburgh, by Ralph, son of Ermiwin; and the Abbey, on the strength of this and some further gifts, tried to raise their little holding to the dignity of a manor. In those early days, before the passing of the statute of *Quia Emptores*, the Abbey had but little difficulty in attaining their end; and so, out of the larger manor of Landican, the smaller one of Woodchurch was carved, consisting, as it does to this day, of some 317 acres of land, in the middle of which stood the little church.

The original gift, in 1093, was of "land for "eight oxen," or what is usually called eight bovates of land. This represented, roughly, about 120 acres of arable land. To this must be added the necessary meadow, pasture, and rough waste land; so that, in these 317 acres, we probably have a tolerably fair example of what was meant by that mediæval unit of measurement, a carucate of land.

The manor remained in the possession of the Abbey until the dissolution of the monasteries, when it passed to the Crown, and was granted, in 1559, to Peter Grey, Esq., who sold it to Lancelot Bostock and Francis Hiccocks, by whom it was conveyed, 25 years later, to Robert Hiccocks of London. From this family it passed to that of

the Leenes, and ultimately to the ancestor of the late owner, Lord Winmarleigh.[1]

The advowson of Woodchurch appears originally to have been the possession of the Norman Barons of Nantwich, who also held the manor of Landican after the Conquest. From them it passed to the family of Praers of Bartomley; this family ended in an heiress, in 1350, who carried the advowson, together with the manor of Landican, to Robert Fouleshurst of Crewe. The advowson remained in this family for nearly 200 years; being sold by Sir Thomas Fouleshurst, in 1540, to William Sneyde of Bradwell. Ralph Sneyde, his son, again sold the advowson, in 1612, for the sum of £300, to the Rev. Richard Adams, at that time Rector of Woodchurch. From the Rev. Richard Adams the living has descended through eleven generations to the present incumbent, the Rev. Percival Robin. A curious feature in this descent is the fact that, in these eleven generations, the living has passed through no less than five heiresses to another name.

In the *Harleian Manuscripts* (2153, f. 115) the family of Adams is described as of Brimstage. This is all that is at present known of the Rev. Richard Adams' origin. Mr. Adams held this living from 1588 until his death, in December, 1615. He married, in 1592, at Woodchurch, Margaret Lytler—almost certainly a daughter of Ralph Lytler of Wallerscote, in the parish of Weaverham. She was, therefore, a niece of John Bruen of Tarvin, one of the leading Puritans in the county; this is interesting, in view of the fact that the Adams family always appear to have been strongly, if not violently, Puritan. Besides three daughters, Richard Adams had four sons, Richard, the eldest, John, Charles, and Randle.

[1] Ormerod (Helsby's edition), vol. ii, p. 520.

The two last-named took orders and obtained preferment, the one at Woodchurch and the other at Wallasey.

In Richard Adams' will we have evidence of his Puritan convictions in the quaint preamble with which the document opens. "In the name of God, "Amen," he writes. "I, Richard Adams, clerke, "Rector of the P'ishe Church of Woodchurch, in "the countie of Chester, waieing the uncertaintie "of this presente life, and confessinge with Holy "David that I am a stranger on earth and "soiourner, as all my fathers were, and longinge "after and lookinge unto the Cittie of God and "heavenly Jerusalem," &c., "make my last will "and testament," &c.

After providing for the disposal of the advowson, he leaves various goods to his wife, Margaret, and his four sons. To the poor of the parish he leaves "40 new measures of barlie." To "Mr. "Hugh Poole of Bebington, a walkinge cloake," and to "my loving and deare friende, Mr. Richard "Sherlocke, a piece of gold of the value of xxiis. "for a ringe, in remembrance of me, and what "bookes he hath in his handes of myne." He further requests this dear and loving friend to take care of those whom he leaves behind. Mr. Sherlock seems to have interpreted this request very literally, as he married the widow three weeks later, and had himself presented to the living of Woodchurch, which he continued to enjoy until his death, in 1643.

As already stated, Charles and Randle both took orders. Randle became Rector of Wallasey in 1646, a living which he continued to hold during the Commonwealth, to the exclusion of the Royalist Rector, Dr. Snell, whom he had ousted in 1646. Randle ultimately went over to Ireland, and was alive there as late as 1675. Charles Adams, the

third son, first appears as Curate of Birkenhead, in 1635, and then as Curate to his step-father, the Rev. Richard Sherlock, at Woodchurch, in 1642. He seems to have been appointed rector on the death of Sherlock, in 1643, but his tenure of the living was brief and chequered; since, in the same year, he appears to have been driven out, and his nephew, by marriage, the Rev. George Burches, put in his place. The tide of battle rolled once more in favour of the Parliamentarians, and then Burches, in his turn, had to flee, and Charles Adams triumphantly returned. He signed the Solemn League and Covenant at Woodchurch, in 1647, and died the following year.[2]

He had married at Woodchurch, in 1624, Isabel, daughter of Thomas Bennet of Barnston, another of the leading Puritan families in the locality, and had issue: Richard, Peter, Thomas, John, James, and Charles - four of whom took orders and rose to positions of some distinction.

Richard and Thomas continued the family traditions and became pronounced Puritans, and both suffered ejection from their respective livings in 1662. Richard studied first at Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1644; and entered Brazenose College, Oxford, in 1646. He became a Fellow of his college in 1651, but resigned, in 1656, on being admitted to the rectory of St. Mildred's, Bread Street. From this he retired as a nonconformist in 1662, and became pastor of a small congregation in Southwark. His ecclesiastical views were Presbyterian, and he is said to have been a practical preacher and a devout quiet man. His brother Thomas entered Brazenose in 1649, became B.A. in 1652, and was made a Fellow the same year.[3]

2 *Vide Wirral Notes and Queries*, Sanders and Irvine, vol. i, p. 58.

3 *Vide Bennetts of Saughall-Massey*, E. M. Hance, p. 105.

Shortly after Thomas' death, in 1670, his elder brother, the Rev. Richard Adams, printed one of his deceased brother's manuscripts, addressing it in the preface to the inhabitants of Woodchurch, in Wirral Hundred, in Cheshire. This volume is very rare—the only copy known to the writers being one in the British Museum—and as the preface contains several interesting local references, it may be worth while quoting some extracts. The book is entitled: "*The Plain Principles of the Christian Religion*, expounded in 107 articles, by "Thomas Adams, M.A., some time Fellow of "Brasenose College, Oxford, and late Chaplain to "the Right Hon. Countess Dowager of Clare," and is dated 1675.[4]

The title is rather misleading, as the 107 articles are merely the 107 questions and answers which constitute the shorter catechism, as prepared by the Westminster Assembly of Divines in 1644; the only original part of the work being the short expositions which follow each question and answer.

Dear Countrymen and friends [writes the Editor in his preface], While in my retired condition I was lately devising how I might do some good to the place of my Nativity, I had a strong apprehension from the affection many of you expressed to my Father's family, that some of the labours of my dear Brother Mr Thomas Adams, now with God, would be very acceptable to you, etc.

'Tis well known amongst you that my grandfather Mr Richard Adams, was Rector of your Church, and then by his purchase Patron of the perpetual advowson, six of his line and name since all devoted to the Ministry of the Gospel, viz.:—mine honoured father Mr Chas: Adams & uncle Mr Randal Adams (yet I hope alive in Ireland). Myself & three brothers, Peter, Thomas, and Charles Adams, were born in the Parsonage House (Psal: 87, 5-6). My dear Mother (who also bore two other of my brothers, viz.: James and John there too), the daughter of a worthy gentleman, was like wise born in your Parish. My Reverend Father and Uncle did some short time exercise their Ministry amongst you; and all my

4 *Vide Cheshire Sheaf*, Sanders and Irvine, series 3, vol. ii, p. 49.

Brethren in the Ministry have preached an occasional sermon or more to you, though none of us could be settled with you to spend ourselves and be spent with you. * * *

Others of their *plenty* have formerly given to the meaner sort of you *Milk* and *Bread* for the *body*, and lately *means* for instructing the minds of your children in the Rudiments of learning, now I do offer a Mite out of my Penury for your spiritual food, etc., etc.

This latter sentence is interesting in its reference to the Woodchurch Charities. The "milk for the "body" had been supplied by means of a cow charity (originally a bullock charity), founded by one James Goodacre of Barnston, in 1525, which was augmented a couple of years later than the date of Richard Adams' preface, by the gift of £50 to the township of Oxton by the Rev. Richard Sherlock, Rector of Winwick, for the purchase of fifteen cows for the use of the poor of that township. "The bread for the body" is still distributed, as the result of a gift, in 1641, of £50 for this purpose, by Mr. Thomas Gleave, citizen of London, which was also augmented, in 1670, by a similar amount from the Rev. Richard Sherlock. "The means "for instructing the minds of the children in the "rudiments of learning" were afforded, in 1665, by the munificent bequest of £500 from William Gleave, Alderman of London, for the building and endowing of a free school in the parish. It is interesting to note that the Rev. Richard Adams eventually left his library of books to this school; and these, in Bishop Gastrell's time, numbered 394. They subsequently became greatly reduced in number, and were finally presented, about fifty years ago, to the then newly founded Theological College of St. Aidan's, Birkenhead, where some of them are still to be seen.

Having thus traced the Adams family down somewhat beyond their direct connection with Woodchurch, we must return to the history of the advowson.

The patronage appears to have passed from the Rev. Richard Adams to his eldest son, who bore the same names, a Liverpool merchant. Richard Adams, like his father, in the preamble of his will, refers to the uncertainty of life, and adds that, since he "is intended to go over into Ire-"land, [he is] therefore desirous to settle [his] "estate." A wise precaution, as the sequel shows. The will was drawn up in April, 1642, and within six months we find it being proved at Chester, so that the visit to Ireland must have been disastrous. Richard Adams had only one daughter, Margaret, and to her he leaves the advowson; and as the possession of such patronage always seems to have constituted an irresistible attraction to some unbeneficed cleric, it is not surprising to find that, within a few weeks of her father's death, Margaret Adams married the Rev. George Burches, son of the Rev. Hugh Burches, Rector of Thurstaston.

With this alliance an entirely different element was introduced into the parsonage life at Woodchurch. The Adams family, and all its connections, had hitherto been always consistently Puritan; while the Burches appear to have been strong Royalists and High Churchmen. It is, in fact, rather difficult to understand how such a marriage could take place, particularly in the year 1642, when the breach between the parties had widened to bloodshed. Still, take place it did; though, with the poor little bride only just thirteen years, and the husband about forty, there cannot have been much community of interest.

As already stated, the Rev. George Burches was presented to the living a year or two later, but was ousted, in 1646, by the Rev. Charles Adams, his uncle by marriage. His father, who had been rector of Thurstaston from 1602 until his death, in 1615, was, no doubt, a descendant of the ancient

family of Birches, of the Birches in Winnington and afterwards of Coggshall. He was a clergyman of some distinction in Cheshire, since—besides holding several livings—he appears to have acted as deputy to the Chancellor, Dr. David Yale. He was M.A. of Cambridge, but was incorporated into the University of Oxford in 1585.

His character and views are rather amusingly revealed in the sententious preamble to his will, which he drew up in 1614. This is as follows:—

Augusti 13, 1614.

In Dei nõie, Amen. I, Hugh Burches, so oft and continuously admonished by a most greevous disease of mine end, and as I lived an unfayned ptestant and faithfull maintayner of the faith and forme of servinge God y^t^ this Church of England doth hold, soe to the end I continue a sincere worsp^r^ of the God of my Fathers and die within the unity of this Church, nothinge altering my pfession nor doubtinge of a glorious resurrection of my bodie to life ev'lastinge. My wants were many in the discharge of my dutie and especially that I did not wth more zeale beate down the subtill p'ceedinges of the novelists seekinge or privily labouringe an overthrow of this reverend Church, and although some p̃tende an upright intente and carriage, I proteste that by my continuall molestation they are better known to mee for houety p̃sumptuous and spitefull crue of Schismatikes than to any wishing theire amendm't and a mature deliberation to their raw and unconcocted exercises.

God bless Kinge James, o^r^ renowned sov'raigne, his illustrious spouse, their happie issue, their Realme governm't and p'sons, the honorable Lords of the Privie Counsell, nobility Cleargie and magistracie of the land, defend and keepe in unity faith peace and obedience, convert all false subjects and bring them to see their folly.

For my brused estate.

My debtes if I should now die my bookes will very neare discharge, but if I live some 10 weekes my benefice of Pennant wth the bookes will more than pay. The reū'con whereof I leave to my wife.

If it please God and his good Lord'p of Chester to admitt my sone Richard to my psonage of Thurstanton by virtue of an advowson granted by Deane and Chapter, then I charge him with twenty poundes to each of his sisters, Jane, Gainor,

and Elizabeth, and tenne poundes to each of his brethern, Robert, David, Peter, George, or else I charge the advowson with them.

The house garden and [? at] Mayes-y-vraithen-wes to my wife I leave for her time, then to my sonne Richard and his heirs. The moiety of Caire Meriocke I leave to my wife, likewise the moytye of Gabriell's Ground and the other moytye to my three daughters. [Household stuff between Mother and three daughters. Leaves "cataille and corne" between wife and daughters and four younger sons.] An advowson granted me by the Bishop of Chester on the Vicarage of Backeford I leave to my wife and foure younger boyes, the moytye to the mother. By me, Hugh Burches.

[Inventory of goods, undated, also filed, in which mention is made of "his house in Chester."] Proved 20th December, 1615. As no executor was mentioned in the will, admōn was granted to Dorothy, his widow and relict.

Such was the atmosphere in which George Burches had been brought up, and it naturally makes us wonder how he fared with his cousins, the Adams. After being ejected from Woodchurch, he seems to have lived in the parish of Bebington, as two of his children were baptized in that church, and in the register he is described as "Minister of "God's word."

Among the papers relating to the Proceedings of the Committee for Plundered Ministers[5] is the following note, under date July 2, 1646 :—"Upon "hearing the cause why the 5th part sh^d^ not be paid "to the wife of Mr Burches, from whom the rectory "of Woodchurch, in the co. of Chester, is seques-"tered, it is alledged by Mr Chas. Adams and "Mr Randall Adams, against payment thereof, that "they being formerly settled there were upon the "King's forces prevailing in the said county driven "from thence, and that thereupon this said M^r^ "Burches possessed himself of the said Rectory, "notwithstanding for that it appeareth they were "settled there upon sequestration of the said "Rectory, from the s^d^ Mr Burches it is ordered

5 *Rec. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, vol. xxviii, p. 156.

"that the former order for payment of the s^{d} $^{1}/_{5}^{th}$ "part shall stand," etc.

Mr. Burches died before 1674, possibly before 1659, and his goods were administered in 1674, by his widow, who married shortly afterwards a Mr. Crane, probably a clergyman in Chester. From Mr. George Burches the advowson descended to his eldest son Hugh, who was too young, however, to be presented to the living in 1662,[6] when Mr. Samuel Grastie, the nonconforming Rector, is said to have been ejected, and the living remained vacant until the Rev. William Anderson was appointed in 1664. Mr. Anderson filled the office of Rector until 1673, by which time the Rev. Hugh Burches, having reached canonical age, was duly ordained and presented to Woodchurch by his mother—the Rev. William Anderson conveniently resigning

6 The succession of Rectors during the Commonwealth is by no means clear. Richard Sherlock was buried 1st Sept., 1643, and apparently was immediately succeeded by the Rev. Charles Adams, his curate. Adams was shortly after ejected in favour of the Rev. George Burches, who was in his turn ousted by Adams in 1646, who continued to hold the living until his death in Aug., 1648. The next Rector apparently was the Rev. William Keys, at least he signs the Register as "minister" in 1651, so it is possible he filled the gap between 1648 and 1654, when the Rev. Samuel Grasty was appointed by the Committee for Plundered Ministers. The probability that Keys occupied the living between the years 1648-54 is confirmed by the fact that we find him appointed to Heswall in 1654. Grasty was certainly at Woodchurch as late as 1659, when he signs the Register as Rector, and Calamy mentions him as the ejected Nonconformist in Aug., 1662. (A Samuel Grasty was buried at Nantwich about twenty years later than this, but this may only be a coincidence.) From the "Proceed-"ings of the Committee for Plundered Ministers," (*Rec. Soc.*, vol. xxxiv, p. 271), we find that on the 12th Jan., 1658-9, "Thomas Nicholls, clerk, "was admitted to the Rectory of Woodchurch, upon presentation exhibited "22 Oct., 1658, from Margaret Burches, widow, the patroness." This extract is puzzling for two reasons—first, it is nearly certain that Grasty was still in possession of the living; and, secondly, it describes Margaret Burches as widow, whereas she did not take out letters of administration of her husband's estate until 1674. It is perhaps safe to conclude that Nicholls never enjoyed the Rectory; but it is possible that Margaret Burches really was a widow in 1659, and for some special reason did not administer her husband's estate earlier. It is certainly significant that George Burches' burial does not occur at Woodchurch between 1664 and 1674, while the Register is defective from 1658 to 1664. If Grasty was ejected in 1662, as stated by Calamy, there must have been a vacancy from that date until Nov., 1664, when the Rev. William Anderson was presented by Ralph Morgan [*query*, Ralph Morgell?]

at that moment. The Rev. Hugh Burches continued to hold the living of Woodchurch until his death, in 1704. He married, first, Mary, daughter of Leftwich Oldfield of Leftwich, Esq., by whom he had a numerous family. It is related of this incumbent that at the time of his presentation to the rectory, it was considered such a handsome living, that he drove to Woodchurch in a coach and four, with his horses shod with silver shoes. He is also said to have borne a character for great extravagance. This reputation certainly seems to be confirmed by his will, in which he refers to his embarassments; and we further find that the executor named in the will renounced execution in favour of William Whitmore, of Thurstaston, "principal creditor."

The preamble to his will is rather pathetic. "In the name of God, Amen. I, Hugh Burches, "unworthy of the name or place of a minister of "Jesus Christ, being at the present sound in mind "and memory," &c. "I desire to be buried (if I "die at Woodchurch) under the communion table "of my chancel." There is one curious bequest worthy of mention, "Then I give my signett ring "to my son Hugh Burches, also my unicorn's "horn, when he comes to 21 years of age."

At his death, the patronage descended to his eldest son George, who was also in holy orders, and curate or vicar of Whixhal, in Shropshire.

The Rev. George, who, we may mention, was certainly the fourth, if not the sixth, generation of eldest sons who had taken orders, does not appear to have acted very wisely: as, for reasons best known to himself, he presented the Rev. Robert Janny, an old man of nearly 70 years of age, to the rectory. There must have been some irregularity, however, since we find Robert Janny ignominiously ejected, in 1705, for the "detestable sin of simony,"

and, consequently, the Rev. George Burches was deprived of his right to present to the living. The informer in this case appears to have been the Rev. Thomas Green, one of the Greens of Poulton-Lancelyn, who, in accordance with the statute therein provided, became entitled to the living as a reward for his vigilance. As will be readily believed, however, Mr. Green did not commend himself to the parish; and, though he continued to hold the living for 43 years, does not appear to have ever resided, or even officiated, at Woodchurch.

The disgrace attaching to this simoniacal transaction is said to have weighed heavily on George Burches, and may account for his early death, two or three years later. He, like his father, also died overshadowed by debt, as his widow, in 1707, renounced her right to administer his goods in favour of Ann Wettenhall of Whitchurch, principal creditor of the estate. The patronage passed to Hugh Burches, a younger brother of the Rev. George Burches, but he died without issue, and the right devolved upon Mary, the sole heiress of the Rev. George.

As has already been said, all the heiresses of Woodchurch appear to have exercised irresistible attraction for the local clergy, and it is not surprising to find this lady marrying, in 1717—at the early age of 16—the Rev. Richard Smith, curate and schoolmaster of Woodchurch. Her portrait still hangs in the rectory, and the tradition is that she was taken from a swing in the rectory garden to be married to Mr. Smith. If this be true, young ladies must have patronized the healthful and invigorating pastime of swinging to rather a later age than is usual at the present day.

The Rev. Richard Smith, who was a son of Robert Smith of Kirkland, in Garstang, co. Lancaster, died in 1738, leaving a son and three

daughters surviving him. About three years after this, Mrs. Smith married again, and this time the disparity of age was the other way. She married John Crookhall, a son of James Crookhall of Clifton, in the parish of Eccles, who could only have been about 16 years of age, as he matriculated at Oxford in the following year, and his age is entered in the register of Queen's College as 17. John Crookhall took his degree in 1747, and was immediately presented by his wife to the rectory of Woodchurch, which had just become vacant by the death of Mr. Green. This he continued to hold until his death, in 1792, though, in 1768, he was presented by the King to the rich living of Eccles, his native parish.[7] Woodchurch appears to have exercised a baleful influence over its rectors at this time, for we find that Mr. Crookhall, like his predecessors, became involved in pecuniary difficulties during his later years—in fact, in 1789, the living of Eccles had to be sequestered, though it was ultimately restored to him on payment being made of his debts.

After Mr. Crookhall's removal to Eccles, his step-son, the Rev. George Smith, appears to have acted as curate-in-charge at Woodchurch, as well as serving the cure of Overchurch. Mr. Smith also succeeded to the advowson on the death of his mother, in 1763, but no opportunity occurred for him to exercise his patronage, and he died in 1774. The advowson then devolved on Mr. Smith's sisters, Margaret (who had married the Rev. Wm. Hughes, vicar of Bidston) and Mary (who married, about 1745, John Peacock of Greasby, yeoman). Mr. Peacock, though only described in the register as yeoman, in reality was a man of considerable substance, and was descended from many of the leading families of the county—amongst others,

7 *Vide* Baines' *Lancashire*, (Croston edition), vol. iii, p. 261

from the Gleggs of Grange, the Radcliffes of Greasby, and the Spurstows of Spurstow. The Rev. Wm. Hughes seems to have had no children, and, as John Peacock's wife died at the birth of her only daughter, Ellen, the advowson once more passed through an heiress to a different name.

Ellen Peacock, the heiress, about the year 1775, married the Rev. Bryan King,[8] Vicar of Bidston, a living which he continued to hold until 1792, when, by the death of Mr. Crookhall, Woodchurch fell vacant, and Mr. King was presented by his wife and his aunt, Mrs. Hughes, as joint patrons.

Through the kindness of Miss King, we have had access to a private memoir of the King family, drawn up some years ago by the late Mrs. Goodwin, wife of the late Bishop of Carlisle. In this Mrs. Goodwin describes her grandmother, Mrs. Bryan King, *neé* Ellen Peacock, as "a pretty, sensible, "and rather stately woman," and her grandfather as "a strikingly handsome man." In an interesting account of the life at Woodchurch Rectory she says—

There was a simple dignity about the people and place such as I have never seen since; the furniture was homely yet handsome, the china old and beautiful, and there was a large and fine collection of family plate, which I think came from my grandmother's family. The silver urn had the same pine-apple ornament on the top which, in stone, was carved on the two old pillars of the gateway.

The hospitality was profuse; all were welcome, rich and poor alike. In the great kitchen, at one end, stood a dresser with a form in front of it. Every morning on this dresser was spread a home-spun linen cloth, and there were placed upon it two loaves, one of leavened bread the other yeast, a large piece of cheese, jugs of milk and whey, with pewter plates and mugs. And day by day might be seen there poor people of all

[8] Bryan King was born about the year 1747, and was a son of Joshua King, probably of Skipton, in Yorkshire, by Margaret his wife. He received the Order of Deacon from William, Bishop of Chester, 31st July, 1774, and of Priest from the same, 30th July, 1775. He was presented to Bidston by Richard Blyth, the Lay Rector, 31st July, 1775. He died 17th Sept., 1820, aged 73.

descriptions—the postman, pedlars, beggars, and tramps—all were sure of a welcome and a hearty meal at the rectory. Once a week two or three half-witted people came for food and a dole of money. One of the family always had an interview and a talk with these persons in order to see that they were properly cared for in their lodgings. . . . This hospitality was scarcely ever abused; the manner of the people was respectful, and they left the house quietly when they had finished their meal.

Mrs. Goodwin tells how, in the year 1820, a great sorrow befel the household by the sudden death of the Rev. Bryan King. He was succeded by his son, the Rev. Joshua King.[9]

After the death of her grandfather, Mrs. Goodwin says she often stayed at the rectory.

The garden was the joy of my heart [she writes]; the walks, the flowers, and the summer house all had special attraction for me, and I never cared to go beyond it. The cheese making interested me very much, and once I was allowed to make a large cheese without any help, and to carry it home to Heath Cottage [a house where Mr. King lived—apparently in Tranmere.] . . . . . The linen was spun at home; it was the custom of the maids to spin in the evenings until eight o'clock, and the hum of the spinning wheels was a pleasant sound to hear. Quantities of flannel, calico, and print were kept ready at hand for cutting out and making up, as occasion required, for the poor and sick.

The life at Woodchurch was a secular one; if any were sick, coals and food and comforts were sent with an ungrudging hand; and in case of serious illness, when the Rector was sent for, he at once obeyed the summons; but no other pastoral visits were made, nor was parochial work of any sort done. My uncle, Joshua King, was a fine portly man, fond of sport and a very good shot; he kept dogs and a gamekeeper. He was a strong tory, and his letters and articles in the local newspapers were well known in the country round. He was kind-hearted like his father, and very liberal; there were few poor clergy in the neighbourhood who had not received benefits and kindness from him.

My uncle had a fine voice and was a good reader, but he

9 Joshua King was born 20th November, and baptized at Birkenhead Chapel, 17th Dec., 1778. Matriculated Brazenose College, Oxford, 6th May, 1796; B.A., 1800; M.A., 1802; Fellow B.N.C. till 1812; Incumbent St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, 1809. Died 15th Feb., 1861.

never wrote a sermon; every Sunday morning he would open a closet, a repository of sermons written by previous generations, and take two out for the day. Not infrequently he might be heard giving directions to his servant in the vestry as to the day and place where he was going to shoot during the week, or it might be about some farm operation.

The music of the church was left entirely to the organist, who was blind; the choir consisted of two or three men and women, who sat near him in the gallery. The numbers of the Psalms were chalked up on a large blackboard, which was put in a conspicuous place. I remember [writes Mrs. Goodwin], one Sunday I had finished teaching my class of children earlier than usual, and was sitting unobserved in our high pew, while a practice was going on in the organ loft; the organist was trying to learn a tune which was being sung to him by a friend. He made many ineffectual efforts to play the tune, and at last threw up his hands, saying, "Dom it, I "can't cotch it."

The Communion was administered once in three months; the alms were divided upon the table, and distributed at the time to the old and poor, who remained after the service, and received the gifts kneeling.

Mrs. Goodwin goes on to add that, in her early childhood, she usually spent her Sundays at Woodchurch.

Our way [she writes] lay over Oxton Hill, and along lanes which were almost impassable, except for carts. My earliest recollection of going to church was upon our horse, Doll, who by herself walked up to the horse mount, as soon as she was equipped with saddle, pillion, and pad. I rode on the pad, in front of my father, and my mother on the pillion behind. The latter seat was a handsome one, covered with cream and purple plush, with a rail at the back and sides. My father walked up and down the steep hill. Doll picked her own way, and always stopped at the same place for my father to remount. . . . Occasionally my mother took her baby on her lap. In my early years I was ordered sea-bathing, and was taken by "Old George," on Doll, to a bathing place near Tranmere Ferry.

The temptation to go on quoting from this charming book of reminiscences is very strong, but we must refrain.

The Rev. Joshua King continued Rector until

his death, in 1861, when the late Canon Robin,[10] a nephew of Mr. King's, was presented, on his own petition. Canon Robin died in 1897, and was succeeded by the Rev. Percival Robin,[11] his son, the present Incumbent.

THE RECTORY HOUSE.

The present Rectory, which was built in 1861, occupies the site of one which appears to have been built about the year 1709 by the Rev. Thomas Green, the Rector; or else by one of the Burches, then resident at Woodchurch. In the cellar is still visible the date and initials, 1631 R.D. Mr. Robin suggests that the inscription is incomplete, and that the R.D. stands for Richard, and should be followed by Sherlock—Richard Sherlock having been rector in that year. Another suggestion is that it stands for Richard Dutton, who, in the year 1630, conveyed the bordland tythes of Woodchurch to Richard Adams of Liverpool.

THE SCHOOL HOUSE.

The School House, which was built in the year 1655, as already stated, was the outcome of the munificence of William Gleave, Alderman of London, probably originally a native of Prenton, who left £500 to build a free school. £100 was laid out in building a School House of freestone, well slated—as Bishop Gastrell describes it—standing in the churchyard at the south-west corner of the church; and £400 laid out in the purchase of lands in Newton, in the parish of West Kirby.

10 Philip Raulin Robin, second son of John Robin, of West Kirby, Esquire, and Mary his wife, daughter of the Rev. Bryan King, was born Nov. 3rd and baptized Nov. 4th, 1814. Matriculated Brazenose College, Oxford, 13th June, 1833; B.A., 1837; M.A., 1840, Hon. Canon of Chester, 1885. Died 25th August, 1897.

11 Percival Carteret Robin, eldest son of the Rev. Canon Robin, Matriculated Oriel College, Oxford, 19th October, 1875; B.A., 1879; M.A., 1882. Vicar of Oxton, 1884.

A new school and master's house was built in 1873, at a total cost of £1461, on a different site, on land presented conjointly by Lord Winmarleigh and Canon Robin.

CHARITIES.

The Woodchurch charities, though not numerous, are interesting.

The oldest is that founded by James Goodacre of Barnston, in 1525. He left the sum of 20 marks for the purchase of 20 yoke of bullocks for the use of parishioners, or, as an old document has it, "for "poor mens plowes." These bullocks, according to Bishop Gastrell, were converted into cows by the Commissioners for Pious Uses—a notable miracle even for a Puritan board to accomplish—a certain writer remarks! The conversion marks the change which took place so largely during the seventeenth century, when arable land was allowed to go into pasture, and the grazier took the place of the corn grower.

The management of this charity seems to have led to frequent disputes, to put an end to which it was agreed to refer the matter to the Bishop of Chester. The bishop at the time was John Pearson, the world-renowned author of the *Treatise on the Creed*. Dr. Pearson devoted a long summer's day at Wigan, where he was then residing, to the full hearing of the case, and that famous writer did not disdain to employ his pen in writing down some very business-like rules for the prevention of further disputes and the use and improvement of the stock.[12]

To this charity Dr. Sherlock, the Rector of Winwick—himself an Oxton man by birth—added £50 more in 1677, to buy cows for the use of the township of Oxton. There is reason to believe that he

[12] The full text of the agreement has recently been printed in vol. i of *Wirral Notes and Queries*, p. 17.

was born in the farmhouse on the site of which now stands the "Carnarvon Arms." In the case of the Goodacre charity, it was customary for those who had the use of the cows to pay the sum of 2*s.* 8*d.* yearly. In the case of the Sherlock charity the sum was 2*s.* 6*d.* The Goodacre charity still survives in its altered form, but at Oxton another miracle has taken place, and the cows have been converted into coals! In 1718, *i.e.*, in Bishop Gastrell's time, there were 111 or 112 cows in the two charities, but now the total number is about 15.

Another charity is the bread dole. This was originally founded, in 1641, by a Thomas Gleave, citizen of London, by a gift of £50. He gave a similar amount of £50 to the neighbouring parishes of West Kirby, Wallasey, Bidston, Bebington, and Heswall. The money was invested in land and the interest spent in loaves, which are distributed, week by week, to the poorer parishioners. The picturesque bread-shelves still hang on the west wall of the south aisle. The original endowment was augmented, in 1670, by a further sum of £50, given by Dr. Richard Sherlock; and again, in 1746, by yet another sum of £50 from the Rev. Thomas Green, Rector of Woodchurch.

PARISH REGISTERS.

The Parish Registers begin in the year 1571 so far as the christenings and weddings are concerned, and in 1580 for the burials. There is a break in the christenings between 1618 and 1624, and in the weddings between 1609 and 1663, with the exception of the year 1656. The entries during the Commonwealth are irregular and clearly incomplete. A transcript of the register, down to the year 1600, was made some years ago by Mr. Edward Hance and the late Mr. Morton; and from

BENCH ENDS AND BREAD SHELVES AT WOODCHURCH

the year 1600 to the year 1703, by the Rev. Francis Sanders and Mr. Irvine. It is to be hoped that some day the funds will be forthcoming for the printing of this important register.

One curious feature of the Woodchurch Parish Register is that it contains the original transcript of the Solemn League and Covenant, with all the signatures complete. One is naturally inclined to regard the Covenant as purely Scottish, but it will be remembered that it was widely signed in England in 1646, in fulfilment of one of the clauses of the treaty between the Scotch and the Parliament.

The preamble to the Covenant has been subjected to some rather material alterations at the hand of an enthusiastic Royalist, at a later date. The emendations are printed in italics.

"An Exhortation to the taking of the Solemn "League and Covenant for *de*formation [the letter *d* is written over the letter *r*, erased] ' and *pret*ence [*def*ence erased] "of Religion the *dis*honour and "*un*happiness of the Kinge and *ye exterpation of* "*the* peace and safetie of the Three Kingdoms of "England, Scotland, and Ireland."

The same hand has altered the word *Rector*, after Mr. Grasty's name in the Register, and in its place written *Intruder!*

The register is full of interesting entries for anyone who cares for such things, but there are none that lend themselves to extracting for a paper of this type.

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

The churchwardens' accounts, unfortunately, only begin in 1763, so that we cannot learn much from them as to any alteration in the structure of the church.

The first entry, under date 1766, refers to the rebuilding of the vestry in a "decent and con-

"venient manner," and the "erecting of a chimney "in the same," but we do not gather any definite particulars as to its position. It was probably in this connection that we find, in the following year, the items—

	£	s.	d.
By cash paid for carting 77 loads of stone from Irby Hill, at 2s.	7	14	0
By ditto, for carting 4 loads of stone from Bidston Hill, at 3s.	0	12	0
By cash paid for carting a load of timber from the Rock House to Woodchurch	0	4	0
By cash paid the masons on acct of work done at the vestry and school	14	2	0

In 1770, a special church tax was levied, towards "cieling the church."

In 1776, a terrible storm must have raged in this neighbourhood, though we can find no record of it in the annals of Liverpool. Under this date occur the following entries.

	s.	d.
By cash for 1000 slates, for repairing ye church after the late storm	16	0
By do. for carriage of do. from Woodside to Woodchurch	4	0

N.B.—We being necessitated to fetch them from Liverpool, occassioned by the general scarcity.

A number of the usual historical allusions occur, such as—

	s.	d.
Mar. 4, 1763.—Paid for ringing on the birth of a prince	3	6
1782.—By cash on the Ringers, on hearing of Rodney defeating ye French	6	0
1798.—Cash for ringing for the defeat of the French Fleet at the Nile by Admiral Nelson	5	0

The numerous and varied duties that devolved upon the churchwardens 100 years ago is well shown in the curious entries one meets with, such as—

	£	s.	d.
Paid for 12 kites' heads	0	2	0

	£	s.	d.
Paid to the Knocktorum folk for a bitch fox	0	3	0
Paid for sparrows and their eggs	1	7	4½
Paid to the boys for warning the sparrows	0	0	4
By cash spent on a strange Minister	0	2	0
1769.—By cash spent on Israel Unsworth, singing mester, and his singers, when they performed an anthem in this church	0	12	0
By cash for reeds and repair the bassoon	0	16	0
1790.—Spent on the singers from St. John's (Chester)	1	11	6
Spent on a dinner on the 5th Nov.	1	1	0
Spent on a dinner at Easter	1	1	0

We may conclude these extracts with the following curious entry, under date 1794, when it was resolved, in full vestry, "that the fee for the duties "of clerk and sexton be fixed at 5 guineas, in lieu "of the usual mode of collecting sixpence and six "eggs for every plow, and one penny and three "eggs for every cottage."

FIELD NAMES.

The field names of Woodchurch township are not specially interesting. Fleet Croft is probably explained by an entry in the register, which, under date 1757, records the death of Henry Fleet of Upton. Orret's Meadow is probably also taken from a man's name—Orret or Orred not being an uncommon name in the district. Heath Hey takes our mind back to the time when a good deal of the land was uncultivated; and the names Town Field, Town Meadow, Accars, Ash Alland,[13] to the time when the tenants cultivated their land together in the common or town fields. Pigeon Croft probably refers to a dove cote or columbarium, which may have been a right of the rectors. Sherrey Brow, the name of the field through which one approaches the village when walking from Knocktorum, is still

[13] Accars = the acres or town arable fields.
Alland = half land or arable strip.

unexplained, and lies awaiting the labours of some skilled philologist.

It is at the lower end of Sherrey Brow--at the bottom of what, in Cheshire, is called a "lache"—that the rushes used to be gathered, and the tussocks of grass cut, which were the forerunners of carpets and hassocks in the parish church. The festivities attending the rush bearing were famous occasions, when a large quantity of liquor, more or less alcoholic, was consumed, mainly at the expense of the church rates.

This marshy hollow is evidently the point at which a stream, running from close to the church, originally joined the Fender brook.

PLACE NAMES.

Landican is one of the most interesting place-name problems in Wirral. Domesday Book has it Landechene, but as the *ch* of Domesday Book is always the equivalent for our *k*, (*e.g.* Chenth for Kent, Chenuvelsie for Knowsley, Chenoterie for Knocktorum), we have practically definite evidence that the word as we have it now is identical with its form at Domesday Book times. Most philologists have been content to interpret it as the British Llan, making the second half of the word stand for the name of some unknown British saint; but Mr. Harrison writes, in his *Liverpool and District Place Names*--"I think we have here, instead of the "Welsh Llan, its Gaelic equivalent Lann, whose "plural is Lanndaichean, which might explain the "whole word." Landican may have had the primary meaning of "the enclosure," or the later signification of "the churches."

Of the name Woodchurch itself, Mr. Harrison writes—"I should suggest, 'the church by the "wood.'"

THE CHURCH.

The church is a low building, and of a late rectilinear character, though the north wall is probably Norman and the tower is fourteenth century, with a later casing. The tower, which is at the western end, has a plain battlement; the belfry windows are of three lights of decorated work; above and beneath them are external string courses. On the west side, below the string course, is a three-light window over a plain door, the latter considerably below the present level of the churchyard. At the north-west and south-west corners of the tower are two remarkable buttresses, no doubt late additions, projecting far out from the tower, and graduated almost up to the top. Built into the south-west buttress is a stone with the inscription—

N. L.
G. V.
C. W.
1675

This probably stands for Nathaniel Leene[13] and George Urmston, Churchwardens, while 1675 is doubtless the date of the building of the two buttresses. At the south-east corner is a rather curious stair turret of square form.

The south porch is large and of late date; in each wall is a small quatrefoil light, in which have been recently placed some scraps of mediæval glass collected from the windows of the church.[14] In one of these there are the letters E. P., joined by a

[13] A difficulty in the way of their identification is that, in the Register, neither of these men appear as Churchwardens in 1675, though George Urmston was so in 1676. Nathaniel Leene was, however, living in Woodchurch at the time, and was the leading inhabitant.

[14] We are indebted to J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A., for the notes on the heraldic glass.

girdle twisted into two loops above and terminating in a pair of ring-ornaments below. These letters are of the Tudor period, and the initials may be those of Ellen, the wife of Miles Pemberton, whose tombstone was to be seen in one of the aisles of the church, at the end of the sixteenth century.[15] Other fragments of glass, somewhat damaged, display impaled arms on a plain heater-shaped shield. This shield has evidently been accidentally reversed by the glazier who fixed it in the porch window, but there is no difficulty in identifying the coat now, on the sinister side, as that of the Fouleshurst family, although the chief is wanting; and from some church notes, taken in the year 1595, preserved in *Harl. MS.* 2151, already referred to, and printed in the *Cheshire Sheaf*, third series, vol. iii, p. 28, we learn that, before it was broken, this shield bore the arms of Fouleshurst—*Gules, fretty Or, on a chief Argent, two mullets Sable pierced of the third*, impaling arms attributed to a family named Blymhill, *Ermine, three mascles in fesse Gules.*[16] Over the entrance to the porch is a niche, with canopy and groining under it. It may, perhaps, not be out of place here to record the fact that the raised cross, cut in the back of the niche, was added during the restoration of the church in order to typify its dedication, viz., to the Holy Cross.

[15] *Harl. MS.*, 2151.

[16] This last-mentioned coat is stated to have been borne by Sir William de Blymhill, knight, and is placed under the Hundred of Macclesfield, in a manuscript of Cheshire and Lancashire Arms, called *Davies' Heraldry*, which was apparently compiled in the year 1629. The same coat is given as that of Blonhill or Blymhall, and a similar coat, but with the mascles arranged two and one, is attributed to Blumhill, co. Chester, by Papworth, in his *Ordinary of British Armorials*, p. 974. The place called Blymhill is a parish in Staffordshire. No record of the marriage of a Fouleshurst and a Blymhill has been found, but the coat of the three mascles on an ermine field appears in the third quarter of the arms of Fouleshurst of Crewe, recorded at the Visitation of Cheshire in 1580. (*Harl. MS.* 1424, printed in vol. xviii of the publications of *The Harleian Society*, p. 102). This fact, and the appearance of the impaled shield in the old glass at Woodchurch, is strong evidence in favour of such a marriage having taken place.

NORMAN WINDOW IN THE CHANCEL, WOODCHURCH

The south aisle is very late perpendicular, possibly as late as the reign of Queen Elizabeth. At the east end, in the south wall, is a plain piscina. The arcading, between the aisle and the nave, consists of four low-pointed arches on octagonal piers.

The roof of the nave is of good open timbers, with collars; and the north wall, which, as stated above, is probably all that remains of the Norman church, is pierced by four square-headed windows.

The chancel is long and low, and inclines very distinctly to the north, giving the interior of the church a crooked appearance. On the north side is a single lancet window of early Norman work, so early in its form that the late Mr. Edward Cox maintained that it was probably pre-Conquest. Over this window the remains of the head of a wheel cross are to be seen built into the wall. On the same side is a chapel of late date, now used as an organ chamber. In the chancel are four finely carved oak bench-ends.

The north wall of the nave is supported externally by four clumsy looking buttresses. Half way along, between the second and third buttress, is a plain round-headed doorway built up, the arch of which cuts into the corner of one of the windows.

As a rule, it will be found that where a church has only one aisle, that aisle is on the north side of the nave. At Woodchurch, however, this rule does not hold, and the aisle is found on the south side.

The font is octagonal, with four shields bearing four of the emblems of the Passion. In the tower is a ring of six modern bells, by Mears and Stainbank.

On the floor as one enters the church—in such a position that within a few years they will be worn beyond recognition—are some interesting mediæval encaustic tiles, with the conventional vine-leaf pattern. These were discovered during

the restoration of the church, and at that time placed in this eminently unsuitable position. It is greatly to be hoped that they will be rescued ere it is too late.

THE CHURCH PLATE.

There is an interesting old silver chalice, round the rim of which is the inscription: "The "Comunion Cupp of Woodchurche, William Balle "Thomas Couentrie Churchewardens, 1625." The dimensions are as follows:—Total height, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches; depth of bowl, 4 inches; diameter, $3\frac{5}{8}$ inches; diameter of foot, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches; the bowl tapers slightly towards the bottom.

THE CHURCHYARD.

In the churchyard, on the west of the path leading to the south porch, is the head of a stone cross, showing part of the figure of Christ. It is very much worn, however, and is mounted on three steps of local red sandstone. This cross was brought from Auray, in Brittany, by Mr. Edward Rae, and presented to the Rector, in 1879.

The stem of the old churchyard cross (or the pillar of the sundial which took its place) still stands surmounting the three old steps, a little to the south-east of the porch. The whole structure is of Storeton or Bidston yellow sandstone. In 1887, however, a modern cross-head, in red sandstone, was placed on the old stem, and the following inscriptions, carved partly on the modern head and partly on the ancient pillar, viz.:—"1887. *To the "Glory of God ✠ this cross is dedicated to commemorate "the Jubilee year of the reign of H.M. Victoria our "Queen. I used to tell the hours of the life that passeth "away, but now I point to that which is eternal."* ✠

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

The following are some of the more noticeable inscriptions in the churchyard:—

In memory of | William Alfred Tattersall | M.A. | Vicar of Oxton | went to his rest on Good Friday | April 11th, 1884, aged 54 years.

In memory of | William Porter | of Thingwall Hall | who died 5th Septr, 1892, aged 75 | also of Mary his wife | who died 25 June, 1898, aged 81 years.

In peace | Elizabeth King | September 10, 1887 | aged 81 years | Blessed are the pure in heart.

Vincent Ashfield King | fell asleep in Christ | October 1, 1882 | aged 72 years | Work while it is day.

John Ralph Shaw | born 28th Sep., 1811 | entered into rest | 14th April, 1884 | also | Fanny Harriet Shaw | wife of the above | born 23rd March, 1816 | died 21 June, 1887.

In loving memory | of | Fanny Eglé | child of | W. Otho. N. & Odette Shaw | born 6th Jan., died 31st Aug. 1888.

In memory of | William Frederick Nicholson | died December 25, 1841 | aged 3 months | Louisa Nicholson | died February 21, 1852 | aged 13 years | Ada Courtenay Nicholson | died September 7, 1864 | aged 15 years | the tenderly beloved children | of | John Ralph & Fanny H. Shaw | of | Arrowe. | Also their youngest son | Duncan Alfred Michael Leigh Shaw | born July 2, 1857, died Dec. 4, 1899.

The Burial place | of | John Ralph Shaw | of | Arrowe | and of | William Otho Nicholson Shaw | of | Arrowe.

At the north-east corner of the chancel, close to the vestry, is the following :—

Philip Raulin Robin, M.A., born Nov. 3, 1814, died Aug. 25th, 1897. Curate of Woodchurch 1853 to 1861; Rector 1861 to 1897.

At the east end of the churchyard, opposite the east window, are three flagstones of the Pealin family; one of them records, "William Pealin "died 5 June 1901, æt. 91, 56 years Parish "Clerk of Woodchurch."

INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHURCH.

At west end of south aisle a window of three lights—

(1) Giving thanks to God for the
(2) precious memory of George King
(3) Who died March 7th 1862 aged 81
(1) years and Cathrine his daughter
(2) who died Febry 12th 1878 aged 58
(3) years this window is dedicated.

At south aisle, west of porch, is one window of three lights—

(1) In memory of Sinckler Porter who died
(2) in Paris 1844 aged 32 also of Mary Frances
(3) Porter, who died at Naples, 1873 aged 24.

To east of porch, in south aisle, are three windows, each three lights. That to the west (A), middle (B), eastern (C) --

(A) ✠Joshua King rector of | Woodchurch, died 15 February 1861 | ✠This window is dedicated to the | Honour of God and in memory | of a beloved uncle | by Vincent Ashfield King and Ellen Goodwin.[18]

(B) Has under it a brass plate—

In memory of Hamilton Georgiana wife of the Rev. Joſhua King; | a woman of an humble piety, rich in good works, who, after having | founded and procured the endowment of the Girls' School in this parish, | departed this life on the 3rd October, 1849, aged 62 years. ✠

(C) In holy remembrance of his beloved dead | this window is dedicated | by John Ralph Shaw of Arrow 1881.

Under western light is a piscina.

At east end of south aisle. a window of four lights.

The north light has—Catherinæ Georgii King | conjugis quæ conſopita est | XXVI^to Maii A : S : MDCCCXLV^to | A : ÆT : LXIX^no.[19]

Next light—Lucerna pedibus meis verbum | tuum et lumen semitis meis.

The third—Dedit mare mortuos, qui | in eo erant.

The fourth—Georgii Smith King qui | conſopitus est quinto | Decembris A : S : MDCCCXLIV^to | A : Æ : XXXII^do.[20]

On east wall of south aisle —

Sacred | to the memory of | George William Ziegler, | o Landican, | who departed this life | on the 31st of March, 1899 | aged 37 years. | This Tablet is erected by his | friends and fellow-agriculturalists | as a lasting mark of the deep regard and esteem in which they held him, | and of their appreciation of his services | to the cause of agriculture in Wirral.

[18] In upper part of this window are two shields, viz., (1) *Sa. on a chevron arg. three escallops of the first* [King]. (2) The same coat, impaling *per pale az. and gules, three eagles displayed argent* [Cooke ?].

[19] Arms. King, impaling *sa. a fess engrailed between three fleurs-de-lys arg.* [Marston ?].

[20] Arms. King, impaling *per fess gu. & arg. three lioncels rampant counterchanged within a bordure ermine.*

On a brass plate upon oak eagle lectern—

This lectern was presented by the parishioners to | Woodchurch Parish church in commemoration of the | diamond jubilee of her most gracious | Majesty Queen Victoria, June 22d 1897. | Rev. Canon Robin, M.A., Rector. |
Messrs. Wm. Johnson and J. Lee, Wardens.

On north wall of nave three windows of three lights and one of one. The easternmost is diapered. No inscription. Between it and next window are two mural tablets of white marble mounted upon slate. The first, to George Ball of Irby, gentleman, is as follows : —

Sacred to the Memory of | GEORGE BALL of IRBY Gentleman | who departed this Life | on the 1st February, 1777, aged 54 | and of | CATHERINE WELLER BALL Spinſter | who died on the 18th Day of July 1787, | Aged 29.

The second is —

SACRED | to the memory of | Mr Thomas Davis Junr late of Grange House | who died Decr 8th 1847 | aged 58 years. | This monument | was erected by his affectionate widow, | as a grateful memorial, who bequeathed | in compliance with her late husband's | wishes, £100 towards the endowment | of the girls school at Woodchurch. | Also of Ann, wife of the above, | who died January 28th 1875, | aged 85 years.

The next window of three lights has—

F. H. S. | to the glory of God | 1877

Between above and next window is a white marble tablet mounted on slate—

In memory of | Anne | the beloved wife of | Edward Spencer Harrison Esqr | of Barnston, | who died the 25th of June 1835 | aged 29 years.

The next window is diapered only, and between it and a narrow window is a similar tablet, viz.—

SACRED | to the memory of | Elizabeth, wife of Robert Ellison | of Woodchurch, | who departed this life August 2nd, 1851, | aged 68 years. | ALSO | the above Robert Ellison, | who departed this life Octr 15th, 1861, | aged 76 years. | Also our dear mother Jane Buggelm | the undermentioned daughter of the above | Robert and Elizabeth Ellison, who departed | this life Feby 27th 1892, aged 69 years. | A tribute of affection erected by | an only daughter.

Next window is narrow. No inscription.

In the tower, the west window has no inscription. Under it is an arched door, reached by one step down; now walled up.

Facing the south door, over the arches, is a stone let into the wall.

I H 1584 R T

To the north of the window at the west end of the south aisle, are two old wooden double-shelved brackets, bearing in quaint letters these inscriptions:—

A. 25 (?)
THE : GVIFT
OF . M^{R} : THO : CLEAVE
CITIZEN : OF : LONDON
ANO DO : 1641

THE
GIFT . OF . RICHARD
SHERLOCK DOCTER IN
DIVINITY RECTOR OF WINWICK
APRIL ANO. DO. 1670

These brackets are still used for the bread doles.

CHANCEL.

There is a screen, inscribed "Praise God in his "sanctuary—Psalm cl"; and a low step, on edge of which is, on tiles let in, "✠ Exalt ye the lord our "god and worship at his footstool for he is holy."

Brass plate in centre of floor of chancel—

Here lieth interr'd the Remains of the | children of Thomas and Ann Place |

viz. Richard, Mary, William } obt { 6th July, 1766. 16th Jany, 1768. 21st April, 1769.

Allso Ann the wife of Thos | Place and Mother of the above obt: | th' 19th of April 1779 Aged 42 years | Thos Place departed this life the 14th of | March 1791 Aged 52 years.

On the south side of chancel are three windows; the first has no inscription, the second bears the inscription—

To the honour of God and the memory | of A. E. Hegan 1848 This window is | dedicated by her husband and children.

The next is a small window in a recess, without inscription.

To right of altar a flat gravestone, inscribed—

WILLIAM HUGHES [C]LERK
A M
died march ye eighteenth 177[5]
Aged 58
Margaret Hughes
October 12th
1802
Aged 76

Above it is a white marble tablet—

Sacred to the memory of | MARGARET, | daughter of the reverend Richard Smith, and relict | of the Reverend William Hughes | she lived LXXVI years, and died October XIIth MDCCCII | . . . . This tribute of unbounded love and gratitude | was erected by her great niece Margaret King. | Also | MARGARET KING | daughter of the late Revd Bryan King and Ellen his wife | who departed this life January XIIth MDCCCLXV | aged LXXXII years.

Upon the altar step, at north end—

Bryan King Rector

The step is fronted with tiles bearing the legend,

✠ "If a man love me he will keep my words."

To north of altar is a flat marble stone—

GEORGE SMITH CLERK | LLB | died February ye eleventh 1775 | aged 42. | Those in commemoration of whom the Tablets | were erected on each side of the Altar | lie interred in the Family Vault underneath | as well as | CATHERINE, the wife of GEORGE KING Esqre | Also HAMILTON GEORGIANA, wife of the | Rev. J. KING M.A. Rector of Woodchurch.

Above this is an oblong white marble tablet, mounted upon slate—

Sacred to the memory | of the Rev. BRYAN KING Rector of Woodchurch whose usefull & benevolent mortal career terminated on the 17th Sept. 1820 | in the 74th year of his age and 28th of his incumbency. | Also BRYAN KING SON of the Revd Brn and ELLEN who died | universally beloved and regretted on the 15th Novr 1822 | in the 29th year of his age | Also ELLEN KING the sole patroness of the rectory of this parish church of Woodchurch and relict of Bryan King, died on the 21st of September 1833 | in the 86th year of her age | . . . .

The east window of three bays—

Deo Ecclesiæque hanc fenestram humiliter | dedicavit Georgius Smith King. A.D. mdcccxliv.

On south wall—

Sacred to the memory of | John Robin, | who departed this life 11th June mdccclv aged lxxxi years | also, Mary, wife of John Robin, | and daughter of the late Revd Bryan and Ellen King, | who departed this life | xviii October mdccclxiv, | aged lxxx years.

VESTRY.

Old bench, carved, and three old chairs; on one is painted,

The Wirral Sympathetic Society | Instituted January 28th | AD 1804 | Robt Peacock President | Peter Lowe, Thos Briscoe } Stewards.[21]

On a board is the following :—

For the | further endowment | of the girls' school | the late Mrs King accumulated £60 | her niece Miss Tanqueray gave £20 | her niece Miss Ann Tanqueray £20.

These sums together with | a legacy of £100 | bequeathed by the late | Thomas Davies | were expended in the erection | of a house for the Teacher.

A large board, with a number of names of proprietors, tenants, their pews and sittings. Much of this quite illegible.

On another board is :—

In the year 1840 the Rev. Joshua King, M.A. | Rector of Woodchurch, raised upon the walls of the free | school a Room for a girls school at a cost of £124 12—an | application was then made to all the landed proprietors to endow the school | the contributors were—

John Wilson Patten Esqr M.P. . . .	£25
John W. Lyon Winder Esqr	20
Cl Maxwell Goodwin	20
Joseph Hegan Esqr	20
Captn Baskervylle Glegg	5
Edwd Spencer Harrison Esqr	5
Thomas Brocklebank Esqr	5
	£100

With this sum and the £20 formerly left by Mr. John Booth

[21] An Upton society now nearly defunct.

(the Rector | making up the deficiency) a field in Newton cum Larton called the Carr meadows | containing two acres one rood and thirty four perches, was purchased in 1843 for £135, | the expence of the conveyance out of chancery being £56.6.5, in addition of (*sic*) which | sum Mr. Edwin J. Kent the solicitor liberally gave up the whole of his bill amounting to £16.6.5 | for the benefit of the charity. The field is now let on lease at £8 p annum and is vested in | trustees, the proceeds to be appropriated as follows, viz. £5 a year towards the mistresses salary | £1 yearly to be expended in bread for the poor according to Mr John Booths bequest; and the | residue in providing clothing, or purchasing useful articles or books as prizes or rewards | for the proficiency and good conduct of the girls educated in the said school. The whole of | the landed proprietors, including two gentlemen who had no property in the parish | contributed towards this benevolent purpose £100 0 0

The Rector contributed 179 12 0

The Rector and his nephew George Smith King Esqr also expended | in 1844 in restoring and decorating the church, and putting ancient stained | glass in the windows the sum of . . £318 . 19 . 4

Inscription in north chapel behind the organ—

A memorial of thoſe who have been benefactors to ye | pariſh of Wood-church | the Revd Thos Green late Rector of Wood-church | gave and bequeath'd to ye poor of ye pariſh of Wood-church | ye ſum of fifty pound, for a Stock to be laid out upon good | Security at intereſt by the Rector thereof for the time | being with the approbation of his nephew Parnell & his heirs | and the intereſt thereof to be laid out in bread to be diſtribu | ted every Sunday to the poor of the said pariſh, as ye ſame | has been diſtributed in his lifetime | Ob: Iany: the 17th: 1746. | . . . . . £ 50

N.B.: The ſaid ſum of fifty pound, together with ten pound left by | Henry Hayes born in Landican, 1680. | . 10

And five pound left by Thos Gill of ye pariſh of Wood-church | were laid out in purchaſing the ditch-field in the pariſh of | Overchurch the 15th of march 1752, for the uſe of the poor | of Wood-church pariſh for ever | 5

John Wittle & John King Churchwardens.

On the wall of this chapel are hung two wooden tablets, probably painted by Randle Holme. The first is inscribed :—

Vnder neath (*sic*) lieth Interred the Body of William Hockenhull | Gen: eldest son to George Hockenhull of Prenton

Eſqr | by Mary his wife Eldest daughter of George Leicester | of Toft in the County of Chester Eſqr: The said William | had to wife Barbara daughter & coheir of Richard Maſsey | of Sale in ye said county of Chester Eſqr (who lineally was Deſcended from ye Ancient Famiiley of Maſsey baron of Dun- | ham-Maſsey in the said County) by whom he had 2 daughtz | Mary & Anne: And Iohn born after ye Fathers death | He died. xxviii. day of December Ano: 1698. in the 40[?]year of | his age.

Above the inscriptions is a shield of arms, between two crests, and below each crest is a scroll and an arched ornament. The arms are quarterly—1st, *Argent, an ass' head erased Sable; in chief a crescent for difference* [Hockenhull of Prenton]; 2nd, *Ermine, on a bend cotised Gules, three crescents Or* [Huxley]; 3rd, *Sable, three crescents Argent* [Gleave]; 4th, *Argent, on a bend Sable three spear-heads of the first* [Prenton]. An escutcheon of pretence: Quarterly 1st and 4th, *Argent, a chevron between three lozenges Sable* [Massey of Sale]; 2nd and 3rd, *Gules, a chevron between three lozenges Or* [Massey ?]. The crest on the dexter side is, *A stag's head couped Argent, attired Or, pierced through the neck with an arrow fessewise proper flighted Or* [Hockenhull]. The crest on the sinister side is, *Out of a coronet Or a bull's head Sable, armed Gold.*

The second wooden tablet is inscribed:—

Here lyeth ye Body of Mary Eldest daur: of Geo: Leicester of Toft Esqr & wife to Geo: Hocknell of | Prenton Esqr by whome he had jssue 10 children: | whereof 3 sones Will: Geo: & Rafe & 3 daughters | Anne, Mary & Dorothy survived her. She died | 27 of December 1681: jn ye 37 yeare of her Age. |

Above the inscription is a shield of arms, between two crests, and above each crest is a skull and cross-bones. The arms are quarterly—1st and 4th, *Argent, an ass' head erased Sable* [Hockenhull]; 2nd, *Sable, three crescents Argent* [Gleave]; 3rd, *Argent, on a bend Sable three spear-heads of the first* [Prenton]; impaling quarterly of eight, 1st and 8th, *Azure, a fesse Gules, fretty Or, between three fleurs-de-lys of the*

last [Leycester of Toft]; 2nd, *Sable, a stag lodged Argent* [Downes]; 3rd, *Argent, two chevrons Gules, on a canton of the last a cross-croslet fitché Or* [Mobberley]; 4th, *Argent, a chevron between three text T's Sable* [Toft]; 5th, *Argent, three boars' heads erect and erased Sable, in chief a crescent of the last for difference* [Booth]; 6th, *Argent, fretty Sable, a label of three points Or* [Harrington]; 7th, *Azure, a fesse Gules, between three fleurs-de-lys Or* [Leycester of Tabley]. The crest on the dexter side is—*A stag's head Argent, erased and attired Or, holding in the mouth an arrow bendwise Gold, flighted Silver* [Hockenhull]. The crest on the sinister side is—*A stag trippant per pale Or and Gules, attired of the last* [Leycester]. The stag should have in its mouth an acorn slipped and leaved proper, but this is omitted.

North chapel west wall is a wooden tablet—

Mrs. Duke of the City of Chester gave | and Bequeathed unto the Poor of the | Township of Woodchurch Ten pounds | the Interest of which is to be distribut | ed amongst four Belonging to the said | Township every Good friday at the discre | tion of the Minister for the time being forever . . . . . £ 10

Mr. John Booth of Prenton gave and Be | queathed unto the Minister and Churchwardens | of the Parish of Woodchurch for the time being | twenty pounds the interest of which is to be laid out in | bread and distributed amongst the poor of the said | Parish every Lord's day at the discretion of the Mini | ster and Churchwardens for the time being for ever. . . . . £ 20

Thomas Woodfine and Iohn Coley Churchwardens, 1792.

On another wooden board is the following :—

Catalogue Mecaenatum, or a memorial of thoſe that have been Encoura | gers of learning, and Benefactors to the Pariſh of Wood | church, 1683.

James Godyker of Barnſton in the Pariſh of Woodchurch died in | the year of our Lord 1525 left 20 Marks to buy 20 Yoke of Bullocks, | which were afterwards by the order of the Commiſſioners of Pious | uſes, converted into Cows and given to the poor of the ſaid Pariſh; . . . . . £ s. d. 13 6 8

Every Pariſhioner that had a Cow or Cows, paying yearly for each | Cow to the Overſeers the sum of 2ˢ 8ᵈ every friday before Whitſunday | which ſaid hire of the Cows, was hence forward, as a ſtock to the benefit of | the poor for ever. And there are at this time 92 Cows in the Pariſh.

	£	s.	d.
Francis Smith of Penſby, died in the year 1628, left 40ˢ to the poor of the | Pariſh of Wood-Church, the Intereſt whereof, yearly, to be diſtributed on good | friday amongst the poor for ever.	2	0	0
Thomas Gleave, of the City of London, Alderman, died in the year 1645, and | Left 50 Pound, to be laid out in land, which remains a ſtock for the poor for | ever, the rent of which being 56ˢ is every Lords day laid out in bread, and | diſtributed amongſt the poor, as the Miniſter and Church-Wardens ſee occaſion. .	50	0	0
William Gleave, of the City of London Eſq: died in the year 1665, and left to the | Pariſh of Wood-Church, £500, for the Erecting of a Free-School at Wood-Church, | £400 whereof to be laid out in land in free [*sic*] ſimple at the value of £20 pʳ annum, | for the maintenance of a School-Maſter for ever. And the other £100 for build- | ing of a School-houſe . .	500	0	0
Richard Shirlock Dʳ of Divinity, and Rector of Winwick, in his lifetime in | the year 1670, gave £50 to the poor of the Pariſh of Wood-Church, the intereſt | whereof to be laid out in bread & diſtributed amongſt the poor of the ſaid | Pariſh, every Lord's day, at the discretion of the Miniſter and Church-ward- | ens for ever.	50	0	0
Richard Adams Mʳ of Arts, born in the Parſonage Houſe at Wood-Church, | in his Life time, in the year 1676, purchaſed & gave for ever to the Uſe of the free | School Lately founded, a certain Study of Books in Number 394 with a scrutore, | the ſame containing.			
Richard Sherlock; R; of Winᶜᵏ; aforeſaid anno; 1677, gave to the townſhip of Oxon (*sic*) | the place of his birth £50 to be laid out in Cows for the poor of the ſaid town, paying | for every Cow yearly on Sᵗ Mark's day to the Treaſurer the Sum of 2ˢ - 6ᵈ which ſaid | hire is to maintain and keep up the ſtock for ever . .	50	0	0
Henry Hayes, Born in Landican, Anno 1680 gave £10 to be laid out in Land, the | uſe of it to be diſpoſed of amongſt the poor of the Pariſh of Wood-Church every | year for ever	10	0	0

Thomas Gill, of the Pariſh of Wood-Church, died in the year 1735, and left to | the poor of the Pariſh of Wood-Church the ſum of £5 | the Intereſt thereof to be | diſtributed amongſt the poor yeatly for ever . . 5 0 0
Samuel Dutton ; & Peter Beck ; Church-Wardens. 1741

Here lieth ye body of Mary eldest daũ : to Robt : | Leonard of Tervin jn coñ : Cestr : geñ : late wife to | George Ball of Irby jn coñ : Cestr : gen : by whome he | had jsſue 5 sones & one dau : of wch there survived onely | 2 Geõ : & [Dorothy ?] She died 6 day Sept 1680 aged 40 | yeares haueing bine his wife 8 yeares. . . [?] She was | a pattern of obedience to all her sex whose life w^s^ | wholy devoted to piety & Charity : her sorrowfull | father survived her [? 6 months] who gave in his life | time £10 : to y^e^ [? pore] of [? Erby] ye jnterest thereof to be dispos | ed on S^t^ [? Thos] day by [?] Ball & his heirs for Ever.

At the west end of the nave and on either side of the tower are two tablets of fine red sandstone, arranged in double columns, giving the names of the Rectors of Woodchurch. That on the south contains :—

RECTORS OF	WOODCHURCH.
1286 Ralph de Caldwell.	1404 Hugh de Malpas.
1299 John de Tewe.	1418 Richard Fouleshurst.
1316 Adam de Wettenhall.	1418 Thomas Coppenhall.
1343 Adam Griffyn.	1451 Richard Thyknes.
1344 Adam Griffyn.	1476 Thomas Smyth.
1346 Richard Griffyn.	1483 Robert Fouleshurst.
1349 Ranolph de Becheton.	1529 Ralph Sneyde.
1375 Thomas de Coppenhall.	1549 William Wright.
1376 John de Tittley.	1570 Richard Haydock.
1396 Richard Bryddesmere.	1588 Richard Adams.

That on north side contains :—

RECTORS OF	WOODCHURCH.
1616 Richard Sherlock.	1704 Robert Janny.
1643 George Birches.	1705 Thomas Green.
1646 Charles Adams.	1747 John Crookhall.
1649 William Keys.	1792 Bryan King.
1654 Samuel Grastie.	1821 Joshua King.
1664 William Anderson.	1861 Philip Raulin Robin.
1673 Hugh Birches.	1897 Percival Carteret Robin.

Beneath this last is a small tablet bearing this inscription :—

To the Glory of God
and in loving memory of
PHILIP RAWLIN ROBIN, M.A.,
Rector of this Parish 1861 to 1897.
These tablets are erected by
his wife and children.
MDCCCCI.

In the south-east corner of the south aisle is a tri-colour flag, saved from the ill-fated H.M.S. "Captain," which sank in a gale off the coast of Spain, and presented by Miss Shaw of Arrowe.

ADDENDA.

The following two small brasses were omitted from their proper position in the body of the paper. They are on the floor of the chancel. Our thanks are due to the Rector for drawing attention to the omission :—

A.D. 1790 April 17th.
ELLEN KING
2 Years 3 Months.
William Son of the Revd. Bryan &
Ellen King died 27th Decr. 1816 Aged 39.

1763.
Mary Crookhall.
Aged 62.

In conclusion, we have to tender our grateful thanks to the Rev. Percival Robin, for kind assistance in our researches and for many useful suggestions, as well as for the generous way in which he has always permitted access to his parish registers and other church papers.

LIVERPOOL LISTS OF EMIGRANTS TO AMERICA, 1697-1706.

By John Elton.

Read 28th February, 1901.

IN the end pages of vols. v. and vii. of the *Records* of the Corporation of Liverpool, for the years 1697 to 1707—very indifferently scribbled, as though being mere memoranda and not official records—appear a number of lists of emigrants, sailing from Liverpool for the trans-Atlantic colonies. The interest attached by American and other genealogists to the names and places of abode of the early settlers in the States is well known. Perhaps the most comprehensive published record of them is that issued by Camden Hatton, in 1874; and it is by this work that we may judge of the importance of the lists lying unutilised in the Liverpool *Record Books*.

It is of interest to glance at what Hatton has done, and note the difficulties he experienced in producing anything like the full lists which the subject certainly ought to afford. Under a comprehensive title that would lead us to expect most abundant results, he described the result of his researches—*Original Lists of Persons of Quality, Emigrants, Religious Exiles, Political Rebels, Servingmen sold for terms of years, Apprentices, Children stolen, Maidens pressed and others, who went from Great Britain to the American Plantations, 1600-1700: from MSS. preserved in the Public Record Office.* To these originals he added a few early

lists published in America; but the result for the century proved inadequate to represent the great total in view, and prompted Hatton to urge the desirability of further researches being made in all likely places. He gives, practically, four special lists:—(1) Register of all passengers from London during the year 1635, numbering, as I compute, about 4800 persons; (2) returns of those who embarked from Ipswich and Weymouth, 1634-37, about 320 persons; (3) passengers sailing from Plymouth and Dartmouth, 1631-34, about 135; (4) passengers from Southampton for the month of September, 1637, about 155 persons. "Those "whose names are here recorded," he observes, "with many others, of whom no such minute "particulars have come down to us, were the "seed grains from which the mighty republic has "sprung. . . . It is impossible to over-estimate "the value of these records, and it is a matter of "the deepest regret that, comparatively, so few "have survived to the present time."

Therefore it is of some interest, that while all Hatton was able to record was, at most, a total of 5500 persons, we have, in the books of the Liverpool Corporation, lists of no fewer than about 1456 more, a very palpable addition to the basis of the researches of American genealogists. These lists are not actually comprised, seriatim, in the current records of the period, but intermixed with miscellaneous memoranda in the spare pages at the end of each of the volumes mentioned; and are not even arranged in order of date. They thus give one the impression of being the rough notes of the Town Clerk, not lists officially compiled. All the emigrants were bound to serve a certain number of years; and it seems as though the Town Clerk (if it were he who made these notes) drew up the indentures. Many of the early entries are regularly

marked "delivered," which of course refers to the indentures: two or three entries allude to the person who paid for the indentures: an entry in 1705 shews who received the fees—"Memo. That when Mr. "Thos. Preeson went in ye ship called ye *Augustine*, "but now called ye *Thomas and Elizabeth*, hee "owd me for drawing the 4 Lad Indentures; and "3/6 besides": and another, in 1706 (quoted in full later) mentions that the charges for four indentures were twenty shillings. These trifles may suggest that it will be possibly at the ports, not at the Public Record Office, and among rough day-books, not official records, that future searchers in other parts of the kingdom may be likely to discover further additions.

The Liverpool lists comprise the names of emigrants pure and simple, who were neither political nor religious exiles, but persons leaving their homes to improve their industrial condition. Unlike their predecessors of 1634-35, sailing from London, Ipswich, Plymouth, &c., they did not come here armed with a certificate from their local Minister or Justice of the Peace testifying to their conformity to the government of the Church of England and allegiance to the Sovereign, and to their being "noe subsidy men, but people and servants of "meane condicon." All that was now needed of them was a willingness to cross the Atlantic and bind themselves, in consideration of a certain wage, to serve as "servants" or "apprentices," for a term of years, in one or other of the colonies. The first lists (Oct. 29, 1697) comprise a series of such curt entries as the following:—

Richard Hilton apprentice to Mr. Bryan Blundell for 11 yeares to commence from his first landing in Virginia or Maryland.

Neither ages nor trades are mentioned, nor yet the ships in which the emigrants were to sail.

About 590 names are entered in this fashion in vol. v, and 175 in vol. vii; being records of indentures, not of sailings. The latter commence, but are not uniformly continued, in October, 1698, with the following list—which is a fair sample of the rest, with the exception that the names of the persons to whom the emigrants were bound are not given:— [1]

The names of the Servants that goes to Virginea in ye *Loyalty*, Captain Henry Browne, Commander—Oct. 19, 1698.

Ralph Kettle of Warmingham in Cheshire, 4 yeares.
Robert Tongue of Haweth neare Manchester, 4 yeares.
John Threlfall of Preston, gardiner, 4 yeares.
Charles Ellis of Macclesfield, 5 yeares.
Alexander Tinkler of Glascow, 4 yeares.
John Wright of Middlesex, 4 yeares.
William Taylor of Scarbrick, 8 yeares.
James Streete, Tenn yeares.
Thomas Walker of Ashton under Line, 5 yeares.
David Taylor of Mottram in Cheshire, 8 yeares.
John Beecham of Chester, 4 yeares.
John Walker of Ashton under Line, 5 yeares.
George Low of Gawsworth in Cheshire, Tenn yeares.
George Brasfield, Eleaven yeares.
John Carneagee of Aberdeene in Scotland, 4 yeares.
Charles Taylor of Mottram in Cheshire, 7 yeares.
John Harrison of Ashton under Line, 7 yeares.
Robert Bower of Macclesfield in Cheshire, 7 yeares.
James Boulder of Augettree in Shropshire, 4 yeares.
John Dobson of Bolton in Lancashire, 4 yeares.
Edward Thornicroft of Sutton in Cheshire, 5 yeares.
Thomas Marland of Ashton under Line, 7 yeares.
Humphrey Howell of Merionethshire, 4 yeares.
John Davies of Denbighshire, grocer, 4 yeares.
Edward Perry of Denbighshire, 4 yeares.
Thomas Upton, of Presberry in Cheshire, Tenn yeares.
John Wynn of Ruthin in Denbighshire, 5 yeares.
Jonathan Clark of Little Mosse in Lancashire, 7 yeares.
Nathaniel Taylor of Mottram in Cheshire, 9 yeares.
Matthew Martin of Presberry in Cheshire, Eleaven yeares.
Joseph Troughweare of Cresby in Cumberland, Tayler, 4 yeares.
William Kitchen of Erton in Cumberland, Tayler, 4 yeares.

[1] I very much regret that no opportunity has occurred to enable me to copy all the lists in *extenso*, as was originally intended.

Joyce Cooper of Carnarvonshire, 4 yeares.
Henry Bolt of Carlisle, 4 yeares.
Thomas Wilding of Litchfield: apprentice to Wm. Bushell, Meate of ye *Loyalty*, to serve in Virginea Henry Jeane of 5 yeares.
Ja: Barton apprentice to James Hawkshaw, to Montserrat, 4 yeares.

Subsequent sailings, arranged somewhat in order of date, and showing that about 690 persons were taken during this period, were as follows:—

An account of ye Servants that went to Virginea in ye ship *Lamb* of Dublin, Mr. Wm. Burnsides master, Oct. 25, 1698. (12 emigrants.)

The names of all the Servants that goes to Virginea in the ship *Concord*, John Walls commander, Oct. 25, 1698: bound to Ezekiel Parr. (46 emigrants.)

An account of all the Servants that went in the ship *Barbadoes Merchant* and were bound to Mr. Cuthbert Sharples, Oct. 23, 1698. (15 emigrants.)

An account of ye Servants to Virginea that went ꝑ ye *Ann and Sarah*, Mr. John Marshall master, for Virginea and bound to himselfe, Nov. 11, 1698. (7 emigrants.) [This vessel seems to have been delayed for further passengers. See Dec. 23, 1698.]

An account of ye Servants that went to Virginea in the ship *Submission* of Lpool, Thomas Seacome master, Nov. 23, 1698. (19 emigrants.) [A subsequent entry in Dec. comprises also eight servants bound to John Marsden, merchant, who went in the *Submission*.]

An account of the Servants that went to Virginea in the ship *Formby* [?] of Lpool, Mr. William Livesey master, Dec. 13, 1698. (12 emigrants.)

An account &c. to Virginea in the *Globe*, Mr. Simpson master, Dec. 16, 1698. (6 emigrants.)

An account &c. to Virginea in the *Ann and Sarah*, Mr. John Marshall master, Dec. 23, 1698. (26 emigrants.) [See Nov. 11, 1698.]

An account &c. to Virginea in the good shipp called the *St. John Baptist*, Mr. Nicholas French master, Dec. 31, 1698. (30 emigrants.)

An account of Servants bound to Mr. Wm. Porter of Lpool merchant who went in the shipp *Eleanor* to Virginea or Maryland, Mr. Nicholas Reynolds master, Feb. 19, 1698/9. (19 emigrants.)

An account of Servants bound to Mr. Wm. Middleton master of the *Irish Lawrele* of Leverpoole bound for Newfoundland, Feb. 21, 1698/9. (5 emigrants.)

An account of Servants bound to Captain Edward Tarleton and went to Newfoundland in the *Yorkshire Lawrell* of Liverpoole, Feb. 27, 1698/9. (7 emigrants.)

An account of Servants that went to Newfoundland in the *Virginea Merchant*, Edmund Ball master, Mar. 3, 1698/9. (43 emigrants.)

An account &c. to the West Indies in the *Ann and Mary*, John Dunn master and bound to him, April —, 1699. (2 emigrants.)

An account of Servants that went to Pensilvania, Virginea or Maryland in the good ship *The Experiment* of Lpool, Cavaliero Christian master: all bound to Mr. John Hughes owner of the said ship, Aug. 16, 1699. (16 emigrants.)

An account of Servants bound to Mr. Richard Murfey, master of *The Lamb* of Dublin bound to Virginea, Sep. 4, 1699. (6 emigrants.)

An account of Servants bound to Mr. Peter Atherton and Mr. Richd. Bridgford to go in the good ship *Lamb* to Virginea or Maryland, and shipt on board hir this 8th day of Sep. 1699. (73 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. John Wales, master of the *Concord* bound for Virginea or Maryland, December 7, 1699. (26 emigrants "but one has runn.")

Account of Servants bound to Thos. Bowling of Exton in Lancashire, husbandman, and went in the *Elizabeth* for Virginea or Maryland: Gilbert Livesey master, Oct. 14, 1699. (5 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Bryan Blundell master of the *Mulberry*, Oct. 24, 1699. (3 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Henry Browne master of the *Loyalty* for Virginea or Maryland, Oct. 24, 1699. (8 emigrants.)

Account of Servants that went to Virginea with Mr. Gilbert Lewsay [Livesey ?] in the *Elizabeth* of Lpool, . . . 1699. (78 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. John Rimmer master of the good ship *Planter* bound for Newfoundland, Mar. 18, 1699/1700. (2 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Wm. Benn master of the *Elizabeth and Ann* bound for Montserratte in the West Indies, Apr. 15, 1700. (8 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Augustine Woodward to Virginea in the *Virginea Merchant*, Oct. 12, 1700. (24 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Wm. Gort to Virginea in the *Elizabeth and Judith*, Nov. 19, 1700. (7 emigrants.)

An account &c. to Virginea in the ship called the *Eleanor* of Liverpoole, Nicholas Reynolds master, Dec. 9, 1700. (31 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Daniell Murphy to Virginea in the ship *John Baptist*, Dec. 12, 1700. (19 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Thomas Lockerby for Virginea in the shipp *Globe*, Jan. 23, 1701. (14 emigrants.)

Servants bound to Mr. Henry Smith for Virginea on board the *Anne and Sarah*, Jan. 23, 1701. (11 emigrants.)

Servants to Virginea on board the *Robert and Elizabeth* to Mr. Ralph Williamson, Jany. 27, 1701. (41 emigrants: four are bracketted "run away.")

Servants bound to Mr. Wm. Everard on board the ship *Lamb* of Liverpoole, Feb. 11, 1701. (20 emigrants: one has "run." Servants bound to Mr. John Charles also on board the *Lamb*: two emigrants.)

An account of Servants sent in the *Tabitha and Priscilla*, Captain William Tarleton commander, Jan. 29, 1702:—

	Age.	Years to serve
John Harrison of Liverpool: assigned to Mr. James Tildesley	29	4
John Humphrey of Denbyshire, to Mr. George Tyrer, and assigned to Mr. Tildesley	12	9
Mary ffish of Whittle in ye Wood in Lancashire, spinster, to Mr. Eden, assigned to Mr. Tildesley	29	5
Robt. Webb son of Edwd. Webb of London innkeeper, to Mr. George Tyrer, assigned to Mr. Tildesley	16	7
Jane Grantham of Olringham in Cheshire	23	4
Ann Tool of ffingall in Ireland, spinster, to Mr. William Tarleton, and by him assigned to Mr. James Tildesley	21	4
James Hatton of Boughton in Cheshire	14	7
Elizabeth Valentine of Liverpoole	21	5

It will be noticed that the number of passengers in the several vessels varied very considerably. While in 1635 some London vessels took out over 200 emigrants each, the highest totals at Liverpool were 78 by the *Elizabeth*, at the close of 1699; 73 by the *Lamb*, September, 1699; 46 by the *Virginia Merchant*, March, 1698; and 43 by the *Concord*, October, 1698.

The first and last of the lists, copied above in full, serve to illustrate the system upon which emigration was then conducted. Men and women, boys and girls were alike bound to serve in the colony to

which they were carried. Sometimes they were bound to the captain of the ship which took them over; he trading with them either as his own or his owners' venture, and making over their indentures, on the best terms he could, to any colonial planter in want of labour, or any agent or merchant doing business in that line among the planters. Captain John Marshall, of the *Ann and Sarah* (Nov. 11, 1698) traded in this way; the emigrants being "bound to himselfe." John Dunn, captain of the *Ann and Mary* (April, 1699) was another trading in emigrants. In the list of those carried by the *Loyalty* (Oct. 19, 1698) we find the mate of the ship venturing upon a similar speculation in carrying over John Wilding, whose services and indentures he was to transfer in Virginia to Mr. Henry Jeane. But, ordinarily, emigrants were bound to merchants on this side of the water, and assigned, before sailing, to certain colonists for whom these merchants acted. The list of servants who sailed in the *Tabitha and Priscilla*, January 29, 1702 (as given above) is a typical example of this system; the emigrants being bound severally to Tyrer or Eden or Tarleton, and assigned by them to Tildesley, who had apparently commissioned each of the three (one being the captain of the ship) to procure him labour. In Oct., 1699, we find five emigrants bound to a Lancashire husbandman, and presumedly he himself was an emigrant and sailed with them.

The ages of emigrants vary from 8 to 40 years. In 1703 is a girl aged 8 years, bound for 12 years "by her mother's consent," her mother being a widow who is not entered as emigrating herself. Young boys frequently appear in the lists, and run-aways from home were not unknown. An undated note among the lists of sailings (apparently Feb., 1699) contains the careful note:—"Memo. if

"Peter Atherton of Cuerdly aged about Ten yeares "comes to offer himself he is [already] apprenticed "to Tho. Richardson of the same place, a gray "wastecoat and gray stockings a Jockey capp "fflaxen haired" :—the flaxen haired stripling very likely being a relative of his namesake Peter Atherton, who, with his partner Bridgford, despatched in the *Lamb*, in September, 1699, the second largest consignment of emigrants that had then left the Mersey. A perhaps more successful adventurer than little Atherton was the sixteen-year old boy, probably an orphan, who, on November 17, 1702, "bound himself" :—"Richard Peling son of George "Peling late of ye citty of Chester shoemaker aged "about 16 yeares hath bound himselfe a servant to "Barbadoes or any other of ye Charybbee Islands "for 7 yeares after his arrival at Barbadoes or one "of the said Islands." We have also charity children exported by the parish :—"Dec. 16, 1699. "John Woods a poor child of Aughton in Lan- "cashire to be sent by the overseers of Aughton "aforesaid to Capt. Clayton for Seaven yeares at "St. Kitts in the West Indies. Joshua Taylor a "poor child of Aughton in Lancashire to be sent by "the overseers of Aughton aforesaid to Capt. Clay- "ton for Tenn yeares at St. Kitts —Richard Latham "and Thos. Harker overseers." And in 1706, orphans saved from the workhouse, if banished from home :—

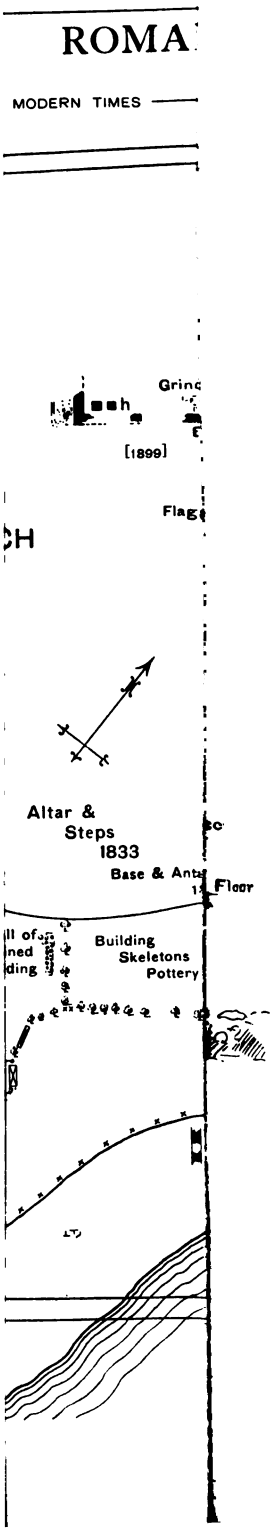
	Age.	Years to serve.
Roger Ellors of Rochdale, a father and mother-less childe	14	7
John Walker of Cockerham, a ffatherless childe	12	9
John Grove.	14	7
Margaret Jones of Holiwell in fflintshire . .	16	7

These 4 servants were bound pr. Alderman John Clievland's order to Mr. Thos. Hughes and the charges (being Twenty shillings) placed to the said Aldermans account.

The adults, from all portions of the kingdom, are

representative of all classes: the yeoman, the son of a "gent deceased," the silkweaver, the chirurgeon; workmen of all trades, spinsters of none; the poor artizan with his wife and baby-in-arms; the ne'er-do-well, who anon "falsifies his name," anon calls himself "Lawrence Scotland of Scot-"land," or "William English of Scotland," and, by the day of sailing, has "runn"; and faint-hearted women, who abandon the hazardous enterprise, and are docketted in the list "Bound but remained." El Dorado across the seas already lured or terrorised them all.

The cogency of the lists may perhaps be indicated by a momentary glance at the course of immigration affairs in the special colonies to which our emigrants were bound. As to Virginia, though founded in 1584, it was not till 1607 that Jamestown was established: this being the first permanent English settlement across the Atlantic; and the first place where, in 1619, the Dutch, by a sale of twenty negroes, established African slavery in America. In 1624 Virginia was constituted royal territory, and strong efforts for its colonisation were at once set afoot. Maryland, which was granted to Lord Baltimore in 1632, and constituted the then sole proprietary government established in America, was partly colonised, about 1634, by the grantee, who hoped to make it a Catholic refuge; but in 1688 it was made a Crown Colony, and a general exodus thither from Britain rapidly developed. Pennsylvania, in 1681, was granted to Penn, who largely proclaimed through Europe his "Free Colony for "all Mankind;" and last returned from America in 1701, in the midst of the period of the Liverpool lists.


ROMA
MODERN TIMES
[1899]
Altar &
Steps
1833
Floor
Building
Skeletons
Pottery

Communications.

LIST OF ROMAN REMAINS FROM RIBCHESTER.

WITH A PLAN.

OWING to the way in which the Roman Remains from the Roman station at Ribchester have become scattered, it may be useful to have a classified list of them at hand, with a few references, notes, and brief description sufficient for identification, as well as the present location of each object, so far as that is known.

The following notes have previously appeared at various times in newspapers and elsewhere, but the Editor thinks it desirable that they should be printed in a permanent and collected form. The lists are tabulated chiefly from the descriptions given by W. T. Watkin in his *Roman Lancashire*, and from the results of enquiry and investigation made since that work was printed. It has not been deemed necessary to give an expansion of the inscriptions, which may be found in the *Corpus Inscr. Lat.*, vii; nor to refer, as a rule, to the sources of Mr. Watkin's descriptions in the works of earlier

antiquaries. Further details may be found in the writings of Leland, 1540; Camden, 1603; Dodsworthe, 1622; Leigh, 1699; Blundell, 1722; Stukeley, 1729; Horsley, 1732; and Whitaker, (*History of Whalley*, &c.) 1823. The following contractions are used :—

C. I. L.—*Corpus Inscrip. Lat.*, vol. vii (Hübner), and Ephem. vii, to same (Haverfield).
W.R.L.—Watkin, *Roman Lancashire.*
H.A.S.—Harrison, *Archæological Survey of Lanc.*
G.R.R.—Garstang, *Roman Ribchester Report*, 1898.
G.I.R.— „ *Interim Report*, 1899.
E.—Denotes that the object referred to is engraved or illustrated.

List of Relics.

Altars (nine).

1. To "Apollo Maponus." Dug up at Ribchester in 1578. Removed from Salesbury Hall to The Holme, Cliviger, and thence (by the will of Dr. Whitaker) to St. John's College, Cambridge; where it remains. Height 50 inches, thickness 17 inches, the breadth is broken. (W.R.L., p. 131, E.) The inscription tells of a Numerus of Sarmatian Horse . . [stationed at] Bremetennacum, and records that the monument was set up by one Antoninus—centurion of the Sixth Legion—the Victorious. (C.I.L., 218.) The date of this altar may be A.D. 238-244.

2. No dedication. Generally supposed to have been dedicated to the Goddess Mothers, on account of a MS. of Camden in the British Museum. Mr. Haverfield, however, has come across another MS. of the same antiquary without the words *Deis Matribus*, which is evidently the original copy. Thus *Deis Matribus*, "to the Goddess "Mothers," was a guess of Camden's. (C.I.L.,

221). It was found in a house at Ribchester, by Camden, in 1603. Removed to Salesbury Hall; thence to Dinkley Hall; and thence to Stonyhurst, where, in a somewhat weathered condition, it is still preserved. Height 33 inches; about 20 inches square. (W.R.L., p. 135, E.) The inscription tells of a cavalry wing (auxiliary) of Astures.

3. To "Mars Pacifer." Seen "among rubbish" by Camden, 1603. Now lost. Described as "little." (W.R.L., p. 137; C.I.L.: 219.)

4. "Emperor Caracalla." Found in a grave south of the chancel, 1833. Now at Sharples Hall, Bolton. 36 inches high, 22 broad, 19 thick. (W.R.L., p. 143, E.; and C.I.L., 226.)

5. Uninscribed; found in cellar of White Bull Inn, Ribchester, 1818; remained there until 1860, but now lost. (W.R.L., p. 144.)

6. Base of Votive Altar. Found in the masonry of a chimney adjoining the churchyard, by Dr. Whitaker, 1813. Now in the Library at St. John's, Cambridge. About 17 inches remain. (W. R. L., p. 143, E.) Inscription translated:—"... with his family. He performs his vow "willingly to a deserving object." (C.I.L., 224.)

7. Base of Altar. Seen at Preston about 1580. Now lost. (W.R.L., p. 137.) Inscription (probably misread): "Pater Satur—nnus—I.O.V.L—" (C.I.L., 223.)

8. Base: to Mars. Seen by Camden, 1603, at Salesbury Hall; thence removed to Dinckley; now lost. (W.R.L., p. 138; and C.I.L., 220.)

9. Uninscribed Altar. Found in 1888, built into the wall of a house adjoining the Rectory, by Mr. James Bertwistle, F.S.I. Retained at the Rectory; where it is still preserved. It has been partly cut down for building purposes, and shows no inscription. It is 24 inches by 11 by 8. (See, however, No. 5 above.)

Anta or Corner Stone.

1. Excavated in churchyard, grave, 1813, 54 inches from base (5). Now lost. "Like a low-"backed seat, 30 inches high, 22 inches broad in "front, 17 inches at the sides." (W.R.L., p. 148.)

Bases of Columns (seven).

(Six of these bases, five of which retain part of their columns, are uniform in character. The remaining base (7), at Salesbury Hall, corresponds with the Capital (i), at "The Holme," Cliviger.)

1. To the right hand of the entrance to the Rectory grounds, Ribchester.

Broken top of shaft, at 23 inches from ground, diameter 18 inches.

Bottom of shaft, at 9 inches from ground, circumference 56 inches.

Upper *torus*, from 6 to 9 inches from ground, circumference 77 inches.

Middle *scotia*, from 4 to 6 inches from ground, circumference 64½ inches.

Lower *torus*, from 0 to 4 inches from ground, circumference 77 inches.

Grooved vertically at opposite ends of a diametral section, to a depth of ½ inch in the shaft, and thus quite through the mouldings of the base. (G.R.R., p. 5; and W.R.L., p. 145.)

2. To the left hand of the same entrance. (W.R.L., p. 148).

Top of shaft, at 24 inches from ground, diameter 18½ inches.

Bottom of shaft, at 10 inches from ground, circumference 65 inches.

Upper *torus*, from 7 to 10 inches from ground, circumference 98½ inches.

Scotia, from 4 to 7 inches from ground, circumference 79 inches.

Lower *torus*, from 0 to 4 inches from ground, circumference 98½ inches.

3. To the left of, and more within, the same entrance; the base mouldings alone remain.

Upper *torus* of base, from 6 to 9 inches above ground (weathered.)

Scotia of base, from 4 to 6 inches above ground, circumference 66 inches.

Lower *torus*, from 0 to 4 inches above ground, (weathered.)

4. At Lower Alston Farm, near an out-building.

Top of shaft, at 18 inches, diameter 18 inches.

Bottom of shaft, at 9 inches, circumference 60½ inches.

Upper *torus*, from 6 to 8 inches, circumference 69½ inches (chipped).

Scotia, from 4 to 6 inches, circumference 65½ inches.

Lower *torus*, from 6 to 4 inches, circumference chipped.

Grooved vertically like base (1).

5. Excavated in grave, 1813; 34 inches from *anta*, and now lost. Measurements of Dr. Whitaker, "Less than 3 feet high, and 27 inches in diameter at base"—[evidently the lower *torus*.] (W.R.L., p. 148).

6. Recorded by Stukeley, 1725, as seen in the "Red Lion," Ribchester. Now lost. 30 inches high, diameter shaft 17 inches, of base (probably a chipped lower *torus*) 22 inches. Mouldings of the base "a scotia between two *toruses*." (W.R.L., p. 129).

7. Base, with a portion of shaft, on square pedestal, or plinth (all cut together), now at Salesbury Hall, and recorded by several antiquaries. A line is traced round the upper *torus*. (W.R.L., p. 149).

Broken top of shaft, at 20 inches above plinth, 37¾ inches circumference.
Bottom of shaft, at 6 inches above plinth, 37¼ inches circumference.
Upper *torus* of base, from 4 to 6 inches above plinth, 43½ inches circumference.
Middle *scotia* of base, from 3 to 4 inches above plinth, 38 inches circumference.
Lower *torus* of base, from 0 to 3 inches above plinth, 44 inches circumference.
Plinth, height 6 inches, square 14 inches by 15.

Capitals of Columns (two).

1. Removed from Salesbury to "The Holme," where it now remains. Height of capital 6 inches, consisting of a *torus* (around which runs a thin line), and a decoration of 8 symmetrical carvings. Height of portion of shaft 12 inches; circumference near capital 37 inches; near bottom 37¼ inches.

These last-mentioned two objects form part of the same column, and are in a state of good preservation, especially the base. Their workmanship, too, is good. (G.R.R., p. 13, E.)

2. Half of an ornamental Capital, once in possession of the Rev. S. J. Allen, probably similar to No. 1, at Salesbury. (W.R.L., p. 149).

[NOTE: the object described by Watkin as seen by Mr. Allen, is not to be found at Salesbury; but it was probably No. 1, subsequently removed. A half capital lies in an out-house, but it is of Gothic character.]

Columns (fourteen).

1. Portions of five on the bases of 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, having diameter of 18 or 19 inches, and showing a uniform "entasis," or gradual diminution towards the top.

2. Portions of one on the base 7 and the capital 1; base diameter about 12 inches.

3. Four columns (Roman Doric), forming the portico of the White Bull, Ribchester; taken from the river bed opposite the church, One appears restored at its bottom. Each about 6 feet high, surmounted by a capital of debased type, being an "abacus" upon a "fillet," above a square moulding, which surmounts a hexagonal one. Diameter 12 inches. (W.R.L., p. 149, E.)

[NOTE: a close examination shows that these columns are not single stones; but they are so thickly painted that it is not possible to give more accurate measures. See below. No. 6.]

4. Two columns spoken of by Blundell, 1722, and by Stukeley, 1725. Possibly the same (W.R.L., pp. 128, 129). Blundell: "The thickness of a "Rowling-stone, only longer." Stukeley: "A most "noble shaft, 7 feet long, handsomely turned," at the door of the Red Lion.

5. Two columns now at the entrance to the almshouses, Ribchester, each 5 feet long, 45 inches in circumference at the bottom, 33 at the top. Their origin is doubtful, but they are of the same stone as the bases 1, 2—from Dutton quarry. They are fixed to separate bases and capitals, which are probably not ancient.

6. Two short columns found in course of excavations, 1899, from vicinity of the Granary; preserved in the Rectory grounds; 3 feet 6 inches high and 1 foot in diameter. [G.I.R.]

Inscribed Column (portion.) Found, 1899, vicinity of west gateway: in the museum at Blackburn. The letters read O

VIN-TO

the N and T being joined (possibly QVINTO). The column is of about 18 inches in diameter. [G.I.R.]

Inscribed Stones (three).

1. Seen in portions by Horsley and an anonymous writer in the sixteenth century. Now lost. Inscription, translated :—" To the Emperor Cæsar " Marcus Aurelius Antoninus | and | the Emperor " Cæsar Lucius Aurelius Verus | the Augusti | a " vexillation of the Sixth Legion, the Victorious | " under Sextus Calpurnius Agricola, Legate of the " Augusti prooræter." (W.R.L., p. 139; C.I.L. 225). The date is A.D. 161-168.

2. A stone, 49 inches by 27, excavated in 1811, in the river bank, between two Roman walls (b.b.) opposite the church. (*Vid.* Whitaker, p. 20; W.R.L., p. 146, E.; C.I.L., 222.) Now in the Library of St. John's College, Cambridge. Date, early third century.

3. Stone found by D. Geddes in 1882, in the Ribble bank, 800 feet above Ribchester, now in Blackburn museum. Only a portion of the inscription remains. (W.R.L., p. 161, E.) The following reading is due to Mr. F. Haverfield :—

NAIA
CURAMIIG
LISDIICFILIVS.

That is: " Curam eg(it . . .) lis Dec(urio) filius." A son erected this stone to the memory of his father. The son was a decurion in rank, and his name ended in lis (as Natalis.) The size of this stone is 31 inches by 12, and it was probably the inscription to the Sculptured Tombstone (2), that stands near it in the museum.

Mile Stones,—Milliaria (two).

1. Emperor Decius. (A.D. 249-251.) " A piece " of round pillar at Ribblecester."—Dodsworthe, 1612. " A pillar, about 19 inches in diameter, with

"letters upon it, found several yards underground, "at Ribchester."—Leigh. The engraving by Leigh (I, 20) represents the pillar as about three diameters in height. The pillar is lost. Inscription, according to Dodsworthe:—

(E). N	D(omino) N(ostro)
IMP . CAES	Imp(eratore) Caes(are)
S . MES . IOQ	G(aio) Mes(s)io . q(uinto)
DEC . IO . TRN	Decio . Tr(aia)n(o) . . C.I.L.

2. Emperor Marcus Aurelius. (A.D. 161-168.) "Lying in a garden at the west end of the town "and near the river."—Horsley. His engraving represents the pillar as about 5 diameters in height (Lancs. III.) The stone is lost. His reading is:—

At top of pillar.

IMP . CAES	Imp(eratori) Cæs(ari)
MA	M(arco A(urelio)
CO . P . MAX . TI	Co(nsuli) P(ontifici Max(imo) Tr(ibunitia)

At bottom.

OM . . L
CIGA
SEIFE.

This reading is doubtful; indeed Dr. Hübner considers the two stones to be the same. (C.I.L. 1171; W.R.L., pp. 140-1.)

Sculptured Stones (four).

1. Three armed men, about 18ins. by 18ins., seen by Dodsworthe, 1622, now lost. (W.R.L., p. 142.)

2. Soldier with Vexillum, 16½ inches high; dug from a grave in the churchyard, now at Standen Hall, Clitheroe (p. 142, E.)

3. Hercules, 30 inches high, found at Osbaldeston Hall; now at the Old Hall, Tabley, Cheshire (p. 145, E.) Hercules is represented as holding a club in his right hand, while over the left shoulder is thrown the skin of the Nemæn lion.

4. Lion (architectural), excavated 1812, a few yards east of grave, (p. 148); now at The Holme, Cliviger; height, 15 to 10 inches; length, 24 inches. This carving is much weathered, but the form and tail are quite traceable. (G.R.R., p. 13, E.)

NOTE.—The so-called "Shears of Fate" stone, preserved at the Rectory, is not of Roman work. It is more probably of the same post-Norman period as the sculptured tombstone within the church.

Bronze Sculptures (two).

1. Bust of Minerva, with Gorgon's head, 3¼ inches (W.R.L., p. 151, E.)

2. Bronze helmet, with human features and Greco-Roman design; 10½ inches high. (W.R.L., pp. 152-3; also Vetusta Monumenta, vol. iv, d. 5.) Both these objects were found in 1796, at a depth of 9 feet in the bank of the river, opposite the Rectory gates. Now in the British Museum.

Tombstones (three).

1. Inscribed: "D.M. GAL. SARMATA." The sculpture is described by Camden as "The portraiture "of a naked man on horseback, without saddle or "bridle, brandishing a spear with both hands, in-"sulting over a naked man prostrate, who defends "himself with something in the form of a square." The form of the tombstone seems to have been as usual. The letters D.M. (representing Dis Manibus) or "To the shades, gods (of the lower world)" are also common. The G following, however, was probably misread. If it were C, it would read:—(DE)C. AL. SARMATA—a decurion of the Wing of Asturians. That is, a division commander of a detachment of auxiliary Spanish cavalry. (W.R.L., p. 157; C.I.L., 230.)

2. Sculptured: Horse soldier spearing a fallen

foe. Found 800 feet above the camp on the farther bank of the Ribble, in 1876; now in the Blackburn Museum. 60 inches by 30. The inscription (inscribed stone 3), was found at a later date, and also mentions the rank of decurion.

3. Inscribed: "In this earth is held the last of "Aelia Matrona,—She lived twenty-eight years "two months and eight days; and Marcus Julius "Maximus, her son,—he lived six years three "months and twenty days; and Campania Dubitata, "her mother, she lived fifty years. Julius Maximus, "a 'singularis consulàris' of the Wing of Sarma-"tian Cavalry, the husband, placed this monument "to an incomparable wife, and to a son most dutiful "to his father, and to a mother-in-law very dear." (C.I.L, 229.)

Wall Stones (two).

1. "Leg. xx. v. v. Fecit" or "Leg(io) xx, V(aleria) "V(ictrix) Fecit." "The xxth Legion, Valiant and "Victorious, made this." The end shows the Legion's emblem, the wild boar. Found in the wall of a small house near the church, by Pennant, in 1773. Removed by Dr. Whitaker, now at St. John's College, Cambridge. Length, 28½ inches; height, 10 inches. (W.R.L., p. 130, E.)

2. "Coh. x Titiana. OP.xxvii."—"The century "Titiana of the xth Cohort, built xxvii feet." Found by Dr. Whitaker. Height, 9½ inches; breadth, 11¾ inches. (W.R.L., p. 130, E.)

Hypocaust, 30 feet by 15 feet, discovered in 1853, in the garden of Dr. Patchett, adjoining Duddell Brook. (W.R.L., p. 149.)

Steps (5), 48 inches by 14 by 4, discovered with altar (4), 1833. (J.B.A., 1851.)

Stone Slab, grooved in centre, dug up in churchyard recently; now destroyed.

Ornaments.

1. Bronze finger of statue, Leigh, 1699. (W.R.L., p. 154.)

2. Ruby, with figure embossed, 1699. (W.R.L., p. 154.)

3. Gold ring, with cornelian, of somewhat unusual type, showing a raven, surrounded with the inscription "AVE MEA VITA"—"Hail, my life." Picked up near the river. Recorded by Pennant, Whitaker, and Watkin (p. 154). At Trewyn, Abergavenny. [From the description given, it is not clear that this is Roman.]

4. Bronze fibula (brooch) and ring of brass, also a "bulla" (pendant), found with altar (4) in 1833.

7. Bronze fibula, found at Harwood Fold, on the opposite side of the river, near the Roman road from Manchester, in 1834.

8. Gold fibula or brooch, found outside the north gateway of the fort, at 7 feet depth, in 1884. Now in the Blackburn Museum. Its weight is 373 grains. It is "harp shaped, and measures two inches by one "inch across the bow," being quite perfect. Mr. Arthur John Evans, M.A., F.S.A., who traces the development in a paper, "On two fibulæ of Celtic "fabric from Æsica," communicated to the Society of Antiquaries in 1896, kindly writes:—"The gold "fibula from Ribchester belongs, in my opinion, to "the second century of our era—to the age of the "Antonines. The loop at the end is for a clasp at "the other end, and which was attached to a fibula "of the same kind, according to an old Celtic "usage. The loop and its collar is a purely British "development."

9. Stone pendant, about ¾ inch, in the shape of a hoof, neatly worked, found in 1888, now in possession of Mr. James Bertwistle, of Blackburn.

The Holme Collection.

Capital of column and lion (as described). Two grindstones, parts of a handmill; top of a large two-handled jar (18 inches high, 6 inches diameter).

The Rectory Collection.

Top of large two-handled jar (which must have been 36 inches high), with both handles, one being broken away; top of a smaller two-handled jar; tops of two one-handled jars; rim and spout of a jar; 3 rims, 5 fragments, 1 handle, 2 burnt pieces: all of yellow ware.

41 plain fragments, 13 ornamented fragments of Samian ware; 1 bowl, partially restored (from 7 fragments), with beautifully worked hunting scenes.

2 glass beads, 1 light blue, the other dark blue; 1 piece of sea-green glass, showing portions of 7 teeth, like a hair-comb.

2 keys, the one of iron, the other bronze. Pieces of iron rusted within bronze case (? lead pipe end).

7 beads, with string of a necklace; pieces of burnt timber; potter's marks and coins, as below.

The Leagram Hall Collection.

Neck of large jar, clayware, 7 inches diameter; 1 large handle of the same, and 2 fragments; 3 pieces of red ware, and 4 fragments of Samian jars. A silver coin of Severus, found in 1871. (Many valuable MSS and drawings, illustrative of the Archæology of Lancashire and the North.)

The other chief collections are now at St. John's College, Cambridge; at the British Museum; the Old Tabley Hall; the Harris Museum, Preston; and the Blackburn Museum; but many miscellaneous curios are unfortunately scattered.

A Roman Christian Lamp, 6 inches long, is exhibited as a loan in the Museum at Blackburn. This is the only Roman Christian relic found in Lancashire: the ware is certainly not local, but probably continental. The emblem of Christianity is contained in the letters X P (Chi-Ro) in the form of a monogram; representing the "Chr" of Christ. (G.R.R., p. 14, E.)

[Note.—This monogram has occurred in three Roman villas: at Frampton, in Dorset, it has been set into a fourth century mosaic, adorned with a head of Neptune; at Chedworth (Cirencester) on 4 building stones; at Corbridge (near the Hadrian Wall), on a silver cup; at Fifehead Neville, Dorset, on 2 silver rings; at York, on a bronze object, and on a few lamps. Toleration was shown to the Christian religion by the Emperor Constantius, A.D. 305, and direct protection by Constantine, A.D. 323.][1]

Miscellaneous.

7 bronze vessels, 1 mortarium (1888), 3 querns, 2 steel-yards (1811 and 1874), 2 bodkins, fragments of clay and Samian ware.

Potters' Marks.

Recorded by Watkin (W.R.L., p. 161.)

(1) (AL)BINVS (2) VAL IX
on vessels of white earth.

(3) BORIEDI OFFICINA
on a mortarium.

Samian Ware:—

(4) "FAPRO" (5) "OFVIEA" (6) "VVVOWW"
(7) MAXIMI

At the Rectory:—(8) PECULIARIS FECIT.

[1] See a paper by F. Haverfield in the *English Historical Review*, July, 1896.

At Blackburn Museum :—

(9) OF SILVINI (10) ALBINIOF
(11) L . COS . VIRIL (12) ? RECVSSE
(13) - - - ID (14) IN - - -
(15) MA . T . I - - (16) - - (Graffito)

On Mortarium :—(17) GRAT - - -

On Handle Amphora :—(18) - - ISV-P—(?)

Gold Coins (five).

A.D.	EMPEROR.	DESCRIPTION.
64-68.	NERO.	Rev. : IVPPITER CVSTOS. God Jupiter seated, L, holding thunderbolt and sceptre.
98-117.	TRAJAN.	CON.VPP. SPQR. OPTIMO PRINCIPI. In exergue : ALIM ITAL. Emperor wearing toga, distributing food to two infants.
——	FAVSTINA.	Obv. : DIVA FAVSTINA. Rev. : ÆTERNITAS. Eternity represented by a figure standing to L, holding globe and sceptre.
276-282. A.D. 278.	PROBUS.	IMP. C.M. AVR. PROBVS AVG. Bust of Probus, R, bearded, laureate, hair short, wearing cuirass. Rev. : VIRT VTI AVGVSTI. Hercules standing, R, holding helmet, and in left a club.
367-379.	GRATIAN.	Obv. : DN. GRATIANVS. PP. AVG. PRINCIPI VM JVVENTVTIS. (Ex) SM TR. Emperor standing, holding a spear transversely, and a globe.

Silver (ten).

A.D.	EMPEROR.	DESCRIPTION.
68.	VITELLIVS.	Obliterated.
68-79.	VESPASIAN.	Obliterated.
79-81.	TITVS.	(i.) CONCORDIA. Fem. figure seated.
	DO.	(ii.) Obliterated.
81-96.	DOMITIAN.	
98-117.	TRAJAN.	(i.) P.M. TRP. COS II. PP. Female figure seated; in right hand a censer, in left a cornucopia.
	? 106.	(ii.) S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI.
117-138.	HADRIAN.	ROMVLO CONDITORI. Rom., head uncovered, marching, right carrying spear and trophy.
193-211.	SEVERVS.	Obliterated.
364-367.	VALENS.	VRBS. ROMA. In ex.—T.R.P.S. City of Rome; Rome represented by seated fem. figure.

Bronze Coins.

A.D. 50-100.

1. NERO or DOMITIAN (2nd brass).

2-6. VESPASIAN. Five,—

(i.) 1st B. S.P.Q.R. OB. CIVES. SERVATOS, within a wreath.

(ii.) do. S.C. Mars standing, spear right hand, trophy left.

(iii.) 2nd B. IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN. AVG. COS. II. Head of Vespasian laureate to right.

A.D.	EMPEROR.	DESCRIPTION
	(iv.) 2nd B.	COS VIII. FIDES. PVBLICA. S.C.
	(v.) do.	COS IIII. S.C. Inscription doubtful, probably same as iv.
7-11.	DOMITIAN.	Seven.—
	(i.) 1st B.	Mentioned by Stukely.
	(ii.) do.	Obv.: IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. CONS. XI. CENS. PERP. PP. Rev.: S.C. Fig. L, holding ivory staff in right hand; in left a spear resting on ground; spurning with right foot a captive seated.
	(iii.) do.	Head L, undecipherable.
	(iv.) do.	Undeciphered.
	(v.) 2nd B.	FIDEI PVBLICÆ S.C. (Cos xii). Fig. stoled, to right; holding in left hand a patera; in right, ears of corn and a poppy.
	(vi.) do.	Cos. xii. or xiii.
	(vii.) do.	Illegible. Excavated 1898. Head to left.
4.	NERVA. 2nd B.	IMP. II. COS. IIII. PP. S.C. Fig. standing; right hand a ploughshare; left a cornucopia.
15-17.	Three Coins.	One 1st br., two 2nd br., probably first century.

A.D. 100-150.

18-20.	TRAJAN.	Three.—
	(i.) 2nd B.	S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI., S.C.
	(ii.) do.	Head right. Rev.: three figures, middle armed, arms up.

AD.	EMPEROR.	DESCRIPTION.
	(iii.) 2nd B.	Head left. Rev. not deciphered. Excavated 1898.
21-23.	HADRIAN.	Three.—
	(i.) 1st B.	Head left.
	(ii.) 2nd B.	Head left. Excavated 1898.
	(iii.) do.	FORTVNA. AVG. S.C. Two figs., male and fem., standing, holding hands; fem. holding in left hand a cornucopia.
24.	FAVSTINA.	
	2nd B.	Struck after her death in 141 A.D.
		A.D. 150-200.
25-27.	ANTONINVS PIVS.	Three.—
	1st B.	Obv.: ANTONINVS AVG. PIVS. PP. IMP. II. Head laur. right. Rev.: TR. P. XX COS IIII Stole to L, with patera in her uplifted right hand, and cornucopia in left.
	do.	Head laureate L.
	do.	Undecipherable.
28.	MARCVS AVRELIVS.	2nd B. ABVNDANTIA AVG. Figure of Plenty standing holding cornucopia.
29.	COMMODVS.	2nd B. Fortune sacrificing at an altar.
		A.D. 200-250.
30.	CARACALLA.	Obv.: SEVERVS ANT PERT. Head of Septimus Severus. Rev.: a fem. figure seated.
		A.D. 250-300.
31.	VALERIAN.	2nd B. FELICITAS AVG.

A.D.	EMPEROR	DESCRIPTION.
32-3.	GALLIENVS.	Two.
	(i) 3rd B.	Obv.: GALLIENVS AVG. Bust of Gallienvs to R, radiate, laureate, bearded; wearing paludamentum and cuirass. Rev.: APOLLINI CONS. AVG. A centaur to R, holding a globe in right hand.
	(ii) do.	Rev. effaced.
34-35.	CLAVDIVS GOTHICVS.	Two.
	(i)	Jupiter Stator.
	(ii and iii).	Claudius, or imitation thereof.
37-42.	TETRICVS.	Six.
	(i)	Obv.: IMP. TETRICVS. PIVS. AVG. Head of Tetricus R, bearded, laureate, radiate. Rev.: LAETITIA AVG N. Fig. standing with expanded hands.
	(ii)	Rev.: Concord.
	(iii)	" Salus.
	(iv)	" Victory.
	(v and vi).	Imitations.
43-46.		Four imitations of Claudius Gothieus or Tetricus.
47-52.	CONSTANTINVS (The Great).	Six.
	(i)	Obv.: VRBS ROMA. Rev.: Wolf and Twins.
	(ii)	Obv.: CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Rev. Victory.
	(iii)	Obv.: CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Rev. TR.P.
	(iv)	MAC DECENTIVS. NOB. CAES. Rev.: VICT. . AVG. . Two draped figures, facing, hands

A.D	EMPEROR.	DESCRIPTION.
		outstretched, oval resembling shield, with letters between.
	(v)	Rev.: SOLI. INVICTO. COMITI. T.F. P. TR.
	(vi)	Rev.: GLORIA EXERCITVS.
53	CONSTANTIA	(2nd Brass.)
54-5	CONSTANTINVS II.	Two Coins.
56-7	CONSTANTIVS II.	Two Coins.
58.	CONSTANS.	Description unrecorded.

Several undeciphered, 3rd Br. Coins, third or fourth century.

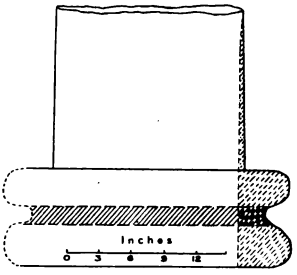
Totals:—

A.D. 50-100 :	1 gold ;	5 silver ;	17 copper : 23.
100-150 :	2 „ ;	3 „ ;	7 „ : 12.
150-200 :	0 „ ;	0 „ ;	5 „ : 5.
200-250 :	0 „ ;	0 „ ;	1 „ : 1.
250-300 :	1 „ ;	1 „ ;	16 „ : 18.
300-350 :	0 „ ;	0 „ ;	12 „ : 12.
350-383 :	1 „ ;	1 „ ;	0 „ : 2.
	5 „	10 „	58 bronze : 73.

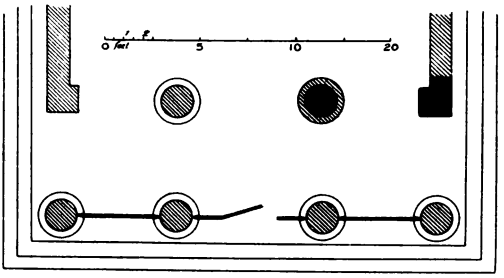
THE RIBCHESTER TEMPLE.

THE object of this note is to enquire briefly into the probable character of the Roman Temple, which apparently stood within the walls of the fort at *Bremetennacum*, where it seems to have been erected at some time in the second century. The restoration suggested by Dr. Whitaker, in his *History of Whalley* (pp. 17 *et seq.*), would have

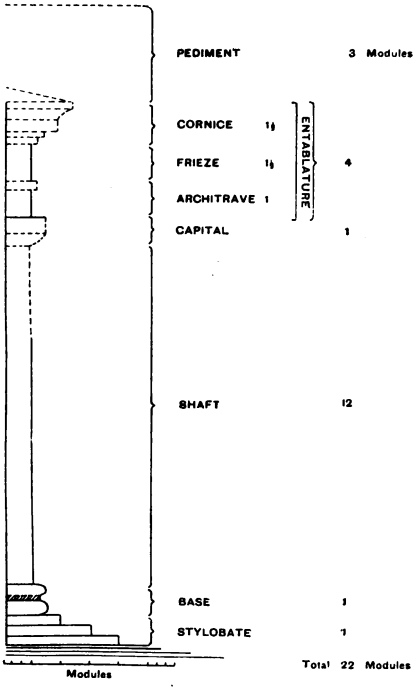
THE RIBCHESTER TEMPLE



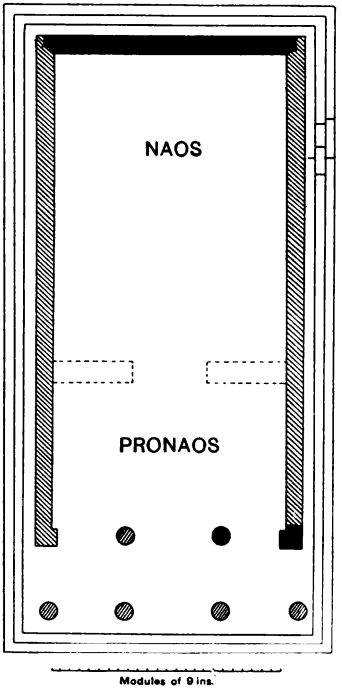
BASE : showing depth of groove



PLAN OF PORTICO showing use of grooves



THE ORDER



PLAN OF TEMPLE RESTORED

placed there a structure hardly less imposing than the Parthenon itself. That such a building should have been found there, in an outpost fort on the frontiers of the empire, is itself improbable enough; and the lapse of a century, during which attention has been from time to time conspicuously turned to the site, has not helped to confirm the supposition in any way. At the time Dr. Whitaker wrote, in the lack of knowledge on the subject of Roman fortification, his conclusion may have seemed based on sober judgment; yet, startling though it seems, his account was incautiously copied by Watkin into the pages of his *Roman Lancashire*, and has thus become accepted without question or comment by subsequent writers.

The evidence for the existence of a temple is sufficient. A slab of stone, inscribed at some length, tells of the restoration of the temple early in the third century. The stone is well known,[1] having been fully described by Watkin and Whitaker: it is preserved at St. John's College, Cambridge. It was found in the river bed, opposite the church, in the vicinity of two masoned walls, which, fortunately, can be located by tradition among the inhabitants. It lay, apparently, within the walls of the fort, not far from the site of the ornamental helmet and the architectural remains, which point to the situation of the temple near this spot. The curious thing is the existence of a temple at all; but, granted that, it is safe to assume that it was built, as nearly as local means allowed, to some classical model. But there is no reason to suppose that it was less simple in character than the architectural remains indicate.

To avoid repeating at unnecessary length the descriptions given by Dr. Whitaker and Mr.

[1] C.I.L., No. 222.

Thompson Watkin of these remains, it may be permitted to briefly summarize them as follows:—

(*a*) *Remains found in position.*

1. The base of a column and a square-moulded corner stone, in their original situations. Discovered in 1811.[2] They were 54 inches apart.
2. Five steps, excavated in 1833, 12 yards westward from the corner stone. [Some preserved in the base of a sun-dial on the site.]
3. Indications of a back wall, 45 feet westward from the corner stone.

The situation of these remains was to the left of the entrance to the churchyard.

(*b*) *Corresponding architectural fragments.*

4. Five other bases, similar in their mouldings; one described by Stukeley,[4] three preserved in the Rectory grounds, and a fifth lying in front of an outhouse at Lower Alston Farm, at one corner of the site.
5. An architectural lion, of stone,[5] found a few yards eastward from the corner stone.

[6. Portions of columns supporting portico to the ancient almshouses near Stydd Church.]

(*c*) *Relics of religious character.*

7. Inscription describing the restoration of the temple: TEMPLVM . A SOLO EX RE(S)PONSV . (RE) STITVIT . ET . DEDICAVIT.
8. Ornamental helmet, found 1796, at a depth of nine feet in the river bank, opposite the Rectory [separated from other remains, but lying

[2] Whitaker: *History of Whalley*, 3rd edition, pp. 35-36.
[3] Just and Harland: *Journal Brit. Arch. Ass.*, vi, 1851.
[4] *Iter Boreale*, 1725, pp. 36-38.
[5] *Roman Ribchester*, Report of Excavations, p. 13, fig. ix.

only 100 feet distant, within the walls]. This so-called helmet is a beautiful specimen of art, and is shown by Mr. W. J. Andrew[6] to have been the head of a statue, presumably of a military character as Victory or Mars.

9. An altar, found on the site, with the steps, in 1833, of the same date as the inscription (7), for the welfare and victory of the unconquerable Emperor.[7] [Of the nine altars found at Ribchester, three at least seem to have been dedicated to Mars, others being naturally of a military character, while two are uninscribed.]

Such is the sum of actual material bearing upon the problem. If it is to be supposed that classical rule was not at all followed in the construction, then this material is obviously insufficient to reconstruct the building. There are, however, in the dimensions and relations of these objects (particularly of those found in position, from which the evidence is more valuable), certain agreements and conformities which show that the principles of architecture were adhered to without elaboration; and the conclusions towards which they tend are borne out by some fragments of circumstantial evidence in a manner so striking that further enquiry into the matter would seem likely to be profitable.

The dimensions of a base and *anta* being given, and their distance apart—and these measures conforming with a recognised type—it remains only to determine by independent means the style and the order, to render the restoration theoretically possible.

The mouldings of the bases are of simple Roman character, a *scotia* with a *torus* above and below. This betokens the Attic base. showing the order to have been Roman Doric.

6 See current vol. of the *Journal. of the British Archæological Association.*
7 C.I.L., No. 216.

The number of bases found and recorded is six, indicating a Prostyle portico, with four columns in front and two between the *antæ*. A simpler form of temple, the only alternative, would dispense with four of the columns, which might be supposed in this case to have belonged to some other building. There is, unfortunately, no direct evidence on this point. The dimensions and observed distances which give the restoration of the one, would serve equally well for the other by omitting the frontage of four columns, leaving the temple *in antis* in severe simplicity. Though inclined to choose the simplest alternative in a matter relating to an outpost fort, yet the exact number and uniformity of the six bases render the Prostyle arrangement more probable. Some further evidence is afforded by consideration of a curious feature observable on some of the bases. Two of them are grooved in a true vertical, partly in the shaft and right through the mouldings, each in two grooves diametrically opposite. This feature is quite conspicuous, and cannot escape the attention of anyone who looks at them. It seems probable, then, that the base which Dr. Whittaker describes was not grooved in this way, since he makes no mention of the fact. A second base, traditionally said to be from the same site, now on the left of the entrance to the Rectory garden at Ribchester, is in good condition and without grooves. A third base, also at the Rectory, is grooved on one side. It is so much weathered that the moulding cannot be followed all round, but on the opposite side it is preserved sufficiently to show that no groove existed on that face. This groove was designed for the reception of a balustrade between the columns, as was permissible. We have, then, two of the bases presumably without grooves, two which are grooved on each side, one which has only one groove, and a sixth which is

lost. Examining the possible causes of these features, it is seen at once how remarkably they agree with the arrangement already probable, the two columns between the corner stones requiring no balustrade, the two directly in front of them being fitted on each side, and those at the extreme corner having no necessity for a groove on the outer side. It would seem that this singular agreement confirms the supposition that the arrangement of the portico was Prostyle.

The temple was thus probably Prostyle of the Roman Doric order. It only remains to examine the actual dimensions of the column and *anta* found in position and the distance between them, for the restoration to be reduced to a mere matter of rule. The bases themselves are, as it has been said, of the simple Attic character, in conformity with the order. They are 9 inches high and 27 inches across, with a variation of 1 inch all over on different stones. The diameter of the shaft is 18 inches with a smaller margin, and there is a distinct trace of *entasis*. The *anta* or corner stone was said to be "like a low-backed seat, 2 feet 6 inches high, 1 foot "10 inches broad in front, and 1 foot 5 inches at the sides."[8] It is difficult to follow this description: if the stone was already in its building position when observed, the dimensions can be understood as giving a front breadth of 17 inches; in the other position that of 22 inches. In either case the dimension is sufficiently near to that of the column to exhibit no great discrepancy. It seems most probable that the front of the corner stone was 22 inches across, while the wall was 17 inches thick. Unfortunately the stone cannot be traced. The dimensions of some of the steps found in 1833, which are preserved, were about 48 inches by 14 by 4.

[8] Just and Harland: *Archæological Journal*, 185

In tabulating these measurements, the following agreements between them and the theoretical measures may be noted, adopting the measure of the average semi-diameter, 9 inches, as a module:

(i) The height of the bases is . 9 inches, or 1 module.
(ii) The width " " . 27 " " 3 modules.
(iii) The height of three steps is 12 " " $1\frac{1}{3}$ "
(iv) The distance between the column and anta is . . . 54 " " 6 "

giving the Diastyle intercolumniation.

The restoration may now be theoretically completed, according to the following tables, based on a well-known model:—

LENGTH (along side)—

	Modules.		Feet.	Ins.
First step	1	or	0	9
Second step	1	or	0	9
Top step	1	or	0	9
Column	2	or	1	6
Space	6	or	4	6
Anta to Wall . . .	54	or	40	6
Top step	1	or	0	9
Second step . . .	1	or	0	9
Bottom step . . .	1	or	0	9

Total length equals 68 modules, *i.e.*, 51 feet.

BREADTH (along front)—

	Modules.		Feet.	Ins.
First step	1	or	0	9
Second step	1	or	0	9
Top step	1	or	0	9
Column	2	or	1	6
Inter-column . . .	6	or	4	6
Column	2	or	1	6
Inter-column . . .	8	or	6	0
Column	2	or	1	6
Inter-column . . .	6	or	4	6
Column	2	or	1	6
Top step	1	or	0	9
Second step . . .	1	or	0	9
Third step	1	or	0	9

Total breadth 34 modules, *i.e.*, 25 feet 6 inches.

HEIGHT (in centre of front)—

	Modules.		Feet.	Ins.
Stylobate, or 3 steps . .	1⅛	or	1	0
Base	1	or	0	9
Shaft	12	or	9	0
Capital	1	or	0	9
Entablature . . .	4	or	3	0
Pediment	3	or	2	3

Whole height 22⅛ modules, *i.e.*, 16 feet 9 inches.

The conclusion, in short, is that the temple at Ribchester was Prostyle and of Roman Doric order, about 25 feet wide by 50 feet in length. So much seems fairly probable; but with regard to the reconstruction in elevation, it is to be noted that no architectural mouldings have been observed which indicate a stone pediment: indeed moulded stones suitable for the entablature are almost wholly wanting. It seems, then, likely that the roofing and upper portion of the temple were of timber, after a manner which Vitruvius[9] says was not uncommon. Oak had been largely employed in the construction of the fort itself, and probably timber was plentiful. On the other hand, certain sculptures, such as those of "three armed men" and a Hercules, recorded by Dodsworthe,[10] suggest ornaments from a tympanum. Another piece, the carved stone lion found on the temple site, seems to have fallen from the pediment, from a usual position over the corner columns.

The position of the temple was partly within and partly without the churchyard, on its south side, near the entrance gates.[11] Excavations have shown that in this position it probably fronted with the granary a main street of the enclosure which passed through or by the prætorium, which it adjoined.

The inscribed tablet, which tells that the temple

9 Vitruvius: *Civil, Military, and Naval Architecture.*

10 Dodsworthe: *Letters in Cottonian MSS.* (Jul. vi.)

11 See the plan which accompanies another article in this volume.

was in need of repair early in the third century, does not tell of the original motive or dedication of the building. If it is true, as seems reasonable to suppose, that the bronze helmet already mentioned was the head of a god within its shrine, then it seems probable that the temple was dedicated to Mars or to Victory. This is in keeping with the votive altar found within the temple area. Certainly the helmet is of a military, and probably of a triumphal character.

It may be noted, in conclusion, with regard to this helmet, that it lay, when found, in its own deposit of sand, at a slight distance from the temple. It was supposed by Dr. Whitaker that this indicated the work of a common thief. Excavations have confirmed a tradition of the sacking and burning of the fortress. It seems clear that some of the defenders actually perished in the ruins of their burning buildings. This being the case, it seems more likely that, when it became obvious to the defenders that the fort was doomed, the head of the god was carefully removed, and buried out of reach of the barbarian.

JOHN GARSTANG.

REPORT FOR 1901.

During the year 13 new members, paying £1 1*s.* each, have joined the Society, while 1 resident, 3 non-resident, and 1 hon. member have died, and 5 resident and 2 non-resident members have resigned. The net financial result is an addition of £4 14*s.* 6*d.* to the Society's income. Of the two removed by death, one, a former President of the Society, Dr. Stubbs, Lord Bishop of Oxford, was distinguished as a great scholar and historian, as well as a wise ecclesiastic and administrator of his Diocese: the other, a conscientious, hard-working parish priest, and a hospitable and genial host, the Reverend Edward Powell, of Lydiate, who was for some years a member of our Council, and took real pleasure in his connection with our Society, at whose meetings he was a constant attendant. His imposing funeral, at Lydiate, on the 30th of December, was attended by the Treasurer (Mr. Gregson) and the Secretary (Mr. Radcliffe) on behalf of the Society.

The usual number of ordinary meetings (10) have been held during the year, at each of which a paper has been read on some local subject. These meetings have been very fairly attended, a great improvement in this respect being manifest. One of these, held at Warrington, on the 13th of April, combined an afternoon excursion followed by a meeting in the evening, the following account of which appeared in the *Warrington Guardian*, of April 17th:—

"The members of the Historic Society of Lancashire and "Cheshire were at Warrington on Saturday afternoon, and "visited the Parish Church, Holy Trinity Church, the Museum, "and the Old Academy. Among the local gentlemen who "accompanied them were: Alderman Shaw Green, Councillor "A. Bennett, Mr. C. Madeley, and Mr. T. May (a member of "the Society). The party was received at the Parish Church "by the Rev. Canon Willis, who gave an interesting history of "the building. The church, the visitors were informed, was "dedicated to St. Elphin, a Celtic saint of the seventh century.

"The Saxon Church in A.D. 700 was of mud and wattle. From "1150 to 1200 a stone Norman Church stood, which was "superseded in 1354 by a decorated stone church, of which "now only the chancel remains. The founder was Sir William "Boteler, and a little later in the same century, the Lady "Chapel was built, and the tombs of the founder and his wife "placed in a recess in the north. In 1463 Sir John Boteler "and Margaret Gerard his wife died, and an alabaster tomb "was placed in the chapel. In 1464 a slab was found in the "Massey Chapel, which was supposed to mark the tomb of the "Rector, Thomas Massey. Sir Thomas Boteler died in 1522, "and his tomb was formerly a little west of that now in the "chapel. In 1696 the tower of the church was re-built, and "in 1761 the nave underwent a similar change. The crypt "vestry was discovered by Rector Rawstorne in 1824. In "1833 the present south aisle was built by Rector Powys, and "during the years between 1859 and 1869 the present tower "and spire, the north and south chapels, the nave and north "aisle were re-built by Rector Quekett. Canon Willis accom-"panied the visitors through the church, and spoke interestingly "of its old associations. The very fine tomb to Sir John "Boteler and his wife excited the keen interest of the party, "and Mr. Beamont's lucid description of it, as read by the "Rector, had their appreciative attention. The Rector men-"tioned incidentally that he proposed to erect an altar and use "the chapel, and as the tomb is below the floor line, he asked "for information upon the advisability of raising it. He was "generally advised to lower the floor of the chapel. After an "inspection of the chancel, and an examination of some old "prints of the church, the party proceeded to what is, perhaps, "the most interesting portion of the church, the crypt vestry, "which was discovered under such romantic circumstances. "Here they inspected the splendid silver plate and old docu-"ments with profound interest, the while they listened to "descriptions from the Rector, Mr. May, and Mr. Lloyd, the "vestry clerk. After a walk through the churchyard, the party "proceeded to the Rectory, where the Rector and Mrs. Willis "hospitably entertained them. Trinity Church was next "visited, and here Mr. Madeley gave a brief description of the "building. The original church was built in 1709. The "present edifice was erected in 1760. The visitors heard with "interest that the massive candelabra in the centre of the "church came from the old House of Commons, which was "destroyed by fire in the reign of George II. The tower of "the church was given by an old-time governor of the town, "and since its erection the curfew bell has been rung at eight "each evening. The painting above the centre of the altar is

"a copy from the Louvre by a local artist. After a short stay "in the church, the party went on to the Museum, and under "Mr. Madeley's guidance, spent an entertaining and instructive "hour inspecting the well-arranged and comprehensive collec- "tion of natural and scientific curiosities and works of art. "An object of particular interest shown to the visitors was the "ancient chasuble found built up in a disused staircase at the "Parish Church in 1824. It afterwards passed into the hands "of the Roman Catholic clergy, and is now the property of "St. Alban's Church, Bewsey Street. It was kindly lent for "the occasion by the Rector, the Rev. Father Whittle. From "the Museum the party went to the Old Academy, where they "had tea. They also inspected the building, and most of them "having a knowledge of the intellectual associations of the "place, found a deep interest in what they saw and heard.

"The party afterwards returned to the Museum, and assem- "bled in the lecture room under the presidency of Mr. J. Paul "Rylands, F.S.A., to hear a lecture by Mr. Madeley, on 'Early "'Warrington printed books.' In addition to a number of "broadsides, prints, and drawings relating to the Parish "Church, there was laid out for the visitors' inspection a col- "lection of books, chiefly the production of the well-known "Eyres Press, and the rarer books from the Library. Some "specimens of very fine printing were greatly admired. The "lecture also was highly appreciated. At the close of the "proceedings cordial votes of thanks were passed to Mr. "Madeley and to the Rector (Canon Willis)."—*Warrington Guardian*, April 17, 1901.

On Saturday, 18th of June, another excursion, to Arley Hall and Great Budworth Church, took place, as to which the *Liverpool Mercury* said as under:—

"The second Summer Excursion of this Society took place "on Saturday, when members and friends left Liverpool by "the 1-40 train for Northwich, to visit Arley Hall, Great Bud- "worth Church, and neighbourhood. On the arrival of the "train a party, over 40 in number, were taken charge of by "Mr. W. Handley, J.P., of Runcorn, and Mr. McIntyre, and "proceeded at once to Arley Hall, the ancestral home of the "Warburtons, who have been the possessors of the township "of Aston-by-Budworth since the days of Henry III, about "1216. The Warburtons originally resided at Warburton. "Arley Hall was built by Piers Warburton in the reign of "Henry VII—1485 to 1495—in the old Cheshire timber and "plaster style, and was surrounded by a moat. It remained "in that style until altered by Sir Piers, the fourth baronet,

"about 1755 to 1758, when the old hall was encased with "brick, and it was almost entirely rebuilt, 1833 to 1842, from "designs by Latham, in imitation of a Cheshire house of the "period of James I, forming a quadrangle 114 feet in front and "130 feet in depth, the courtyard being laid out in parterres "of flowers, the front of the building being richly decorated "with sculptured and armorial designs, while over the entrance "door is carved the kindly invitation :—

"'This gate is free to all good men and true,
"'Right welcome thou, if worthy to pass through.'

"The party were conducted through the library and gallery, "the grand staircase, dining room, the drawing room, and "other interesting apartments, and then through the private "chapel. They then inspected the beautiful gardens, and the "fifteenth century barn, with its massive timber work. Next "they proceeded to Great Budworth Church, being received "there by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Holmes, and conducted "over this fine church, which dates from 1400 to 1432. The "monuments, carved oak stalls, coats of arms, parish registers, "and other features of note, were examined with great interest. "The party then adjourned to that ancient hostelry 'The Cock,' "at Great Budworth, where tea was served, after which votes "of thanks were heartily accorded Mr. W. Handley and Mr. "McIntyre, who had organised and carried out all arrange-"ments, and to the Rev. Canon Holmes for his courtesy and "kindness at Great Budworth Church. Northwich was left "at 7-30, and Liverpool was reached in good time. A most "enjoyable and instructive day, in one of the most delightful "spots in Cheshire, was spent."

The 51st volume (N.S. 15) of the Society's *Transactions* was issued to members on March 1.

MEMBERS ELECTED, 1901.

Jan. 17, Larkin, F. C.
" 17, Lathom, The Earl of.
Feb. 1, Lockett, R. Cyril.
" 14, Ellsworth, W. S.
" 14, Liverpool, Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of.
" 28, Paget-Tomlinson, W. S.
April 13, Crosthwaite, Chas. C.
" 13, Rochdale Free Public Library.
Nov. 7, Bibby-Hesketh, C. H.
" 7, Bigland, Alfred.
" 7, Bromilow, Henry J.
" 7, Rundell, Towson W.
" 7, Whatham, W. R.

PAPERS READ, 1901.

Jan. 17 "The Grelley Family." ... ... William Farrer.

Feb. 14 "Coniston Bloomeries," W. G. Collingwood, M.A.

„ 28 "Liverpool Apprentices shipped to Virginia in 1697." ... ... John Elton.

Mar. 14 "Origin of the Mayors' Allowance at Chester and Liverpool." ... ... John Elton.

„ 28 "Woodchurch, in Wirral—a short parochial history."
Frank C. Beazley and Wm. Fergusson Irvine.

April 13 "Warrington early printed Books."
Charles Madeley.

Nov. 7 "Excavations at Ribchester."
"Recent Discoveries by the Writer in Egypt"
John Garstang, M.A.

„ 21 "Notes upon Crosby Chapel."... W. E. Gregson.

Dec. 5 "The Distribution of Surnames in Lancashire in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries."
Lt.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A.

„ 12 "Mediæval Baptismal Fonts in the Hundreds of West Derby and Wirral." ... J. W. Ellis, M.B.

The Hon. Treasurer in account with The Historic Society of Lancashire & Cheshire,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1901.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank from last account	53	2	0
Received Subscriptions during the year, including dividends on Consols, cash from sale of Books, &c., and Bank interest ...	174	18	1
Donation from Henry Peet, F.S.A.	2	0	0
	£230	0	1

PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Rent	10	10	0
Refreshments	9	8	8
Secretary's honorarium	26	5	0
Indexing Volume	4	4	0
Printing Volume, Notices, &c.	124	10	11
Subscriptions to other Societies, and for the Archæological Index	5	7	9
Insurance	0	16	0
Fees to Lecturers—W. G. Collingwood, M.A. John Garstang, M.A. (including travelling expenses	4	0	0
Limelight	2	2	0
Plates for the paper on "Freemasonry," by W. Harry Rylands, F.S.A....	10	0	0
Books purchased to add to stock	5	10	0
Treasurer's expenses for printing, stationery, and stamps, and new cheque book, and Secretary's expenses for stationery ...	2	4	4
Fazakerley, for new Minute Book	1	7	6
Loss on abandoned excursion to Congleton...	1	0	0
Loss on excursion to Great Budworth ...	1	5	3
Balance in Bank	19	6	8
	£230	0	1

WILLIAM E. GREGSON, *Hon. Treasurer.*

16th January, 1902.

Audited,

11th February, 1902. ALFRED PATCHETT.

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NOTE

THIS Index was begun under the auspices of the Congress of Archæological Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries. Its success being assured the Congress have placed it in the hands of the publishers to continue yearly.

The value of the Index to archæologists is now recognised. Every effort is made to keep its contents up to date and continuous, but it is obvious that the difficulties are great unless the assistance of the societies is obtained. If for any reason the papers of a society are not indexed in the year to which they properly belong, the plan is to include them in the following year; and whenever the papers of societies are brought into the Index for the first time they are then indexed from the year 1891.

By this it will be seen that the year 1891 is treated as the commencing year for the Index, and that all transactions published in and since that year will find their place in the series.

To make this work complete an index of the transactions from the beginning of archæological societies down to the year 1890 is needed. This work is now going through the press.

Societies will greatly oblige by communicating any omissions or suggestions to the editor, LAURENCE GOMME, F.S.A., 24, Dorset Square, London, N.W.

Single copies of the yearly Index from 1891 may be obtained. The subscription list for the complete Index up to 1891 is still open, and intending subscribers should apply at once to Messrs. ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE & Co. Many of the Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries take a sufficient number of copies of the yearly Index to issue with their transactions to each of their members. The more this plan is extended the less will be the cost of the Index to each society.

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Churches : *Adams, Anderson, André, Baring-Gould, Barnes, Cotton, Curwen, Davidson, Downs, Druitt, Dryden, Gerish, Glynne, Halliday, Harrold, Hewson, Hipkins, Hope, Hudson, Knox, Leach, Livett, MacDonald, MacLeod, Marshall, Mills, Mumford, Pearman, Peet, Peter, Ponting, Rolleston, Round, Ruddle, Savage, Scott, Sutton, Sykes, Taylor, Watson, Were, Westropp, Wright.*
Churchwardens' accounts : *Davis.*
Cirencester : *Cripps, Ely.*
Cistercian monastery : *Perkins.*
Clane : *Cooke-Trench, Fitzgerald, Stokes.*
Clare (co.) : *Westropp.*
Clifton near Dartmouth : *Adams.*
Cluny : *MacPherson.*
Clyde (river) : *Bruce.*
Coast defence : *Martin, Tomlinson.*
Compton Wynyates : *Money.*
Connaught : *Knox.*
Consecration of churches : *E.*
Cornwall : *Baring-Gould, Beddoe, Haverfield, Rundle, Ussher.* *See* "Carhayes," "Penwith," "St. Michael's Mount," "Truro."
Costume : *Lach-Szyrma.*
Crosses : *Ball, Bellairs, Buckley, Cole, Fitzgerald, Hewat, Lynam, MacNamara, Marshall, Munro, Westropp.*
Crosthwaite : *Watson.*
Cumberland : *Cowper, Ferguson, Haverfield.* *See* "Crosthwaite," "Drumburgh," "Maryport," "Whitbeck," "Workington."
Cup-marked stones : *Anderson, Astley, Browne, MacKenzie.*
Cyprus : *Dalton, Murray.*

Dale abbey : *Burton.*
Deal : *Dowker.*
Derbyshire : *Birch, Brushfield, Bryan, Carrington, Jourdain, Lynam, Ward.* *See* "Ashborne," "Baslow," "Birchover," "Buxton," "Dale," "Haddon," "Matlock," "Repton."
Devonshire : *Amery, Baring-Gould, Elliott, Elworthy, Lethbridge, Northcote, Pearson, Rowe, Ussher, Worth.* *See* "Blagdon Barton," "Clifton," "Holbeton," "Ogwell," "Plymouth," "Rose Ash," "Torrington, Great," "Torrington, Little," "Totnes."
Dialect : *Elworthy, MacInnes, Masson, Strachan.*
Domesday : *Brownbill, Kenyon, Whale.*
Dorsetshire : *Dawkins, March.* *See* "Whitechurch Canonicorum."
Drumburgh : *Haverfield.*
Dublin : *Berry, Dix, Drew, Fitzgerald, Keatinge, Kelly, Mills.*
Dunbar : *Firth.*
Durham : *Fowler.*
Durham : *See* "Durham," "Edmundbyers," "Jarrow."
Durrington : *Ruddle.*
Durrow : *Williams.*

Earth houses : *MacRitchie.*
Earthworks, barrows, mounds, etc. : *Baring-Gould, Brushfield, Christison, Clark, Cooper, Boyd-Dawkins, Evans, Gould, Laver, Polson.*
Eastleach Martin : *Wright.*
Eastleach Turville : *Wright.*
Ecclesiastical history : *Arnold, Cole, Eyre, Hennesy, Legg, MacDougall, Westropp.*
Ecclesiology : *Atchley, Beloe, Bigger, Hope, Johnston, Reid, Vane.*
Edmundbyers : *Featherstonhaugh.*
Egyptology : *Breasted, Clark, Griffith, Macalister, MacIver, Nash, Newberry, Offord, Petrie, Price, Ricci, Sayce, Ward, Whyte.*
Elgin : *MacDonald.*
Ellandune : *Maskelyne.*
Enford : *Ponting.*
Eskimos : *Duckworth.*
Essex : *Christy, Waller.* *See* "Braintree," "Fyfield," "Great Holland," "Havering atte Bower," "Lexden."
Ethnology : *B., Beddoe, Cowper, Gray, MacBain.*
Eton : *Harwood.*
Exeter : *Hunt.*

Faversham : *Giraud.*
Fawsley : *Fawsley.*
Feckenham : *Willis-Bund.*
Fetcham : *André.*
Field names : *Cole, Morris, Waller.*

Flookburgh: *Cowper.*
Folklore: *Abercromby, Amery, Anderson, André, Axon, Baildon, Braitmaier, Brushfield, Burne, Carson, Chadwick, Crooke, E., Emslie, Ferguson, Fergusson, Gale, Gaster, Greene, Grierson, Haddon, Hartland, Haverfield, Holmes, Hutcheson, Kildare, Lang, Law, Leland, MacDonald (Rev. A.), MacDonald (Rev. J.), MacKenzie, MacPhail, MacRitchie, MacRury, March, Marett, Meyer, Milne, Northcote, P., Paton, Peacock (E.), Peacock (M.), Pearce, Price, Ritchie, Rouse, Sayce, Seligmann, Thomas, Thompson, Venkataswami, W., Westermarck, Wiedemann.*
Fonts: *Fryer.*
Freemasonry: *Rylands.*
Furneaux Pelham: *Andrews.*
Furness: *Gaythorpe, Hope.*
Fyfield: *Round.*

Genealogy, family and personal history: *Amery, Baddeley, Bain, Bowles, Brushfield, Burtchaell, Carrington, Day, Duncan, Ellis, Fitzgerald, Frazer-Mackintosh, Graham, Hawkesbury, Higgins, Hill, Ireland, Kildare, Langrishe, Maddison, Mather, Milbourn, Miller, Parker, Phillips, Rogers, Rutton, Troup, Weyman, Windeatt.*
Glanworth: *Moore.*
Glasgow: *Campbell.*
Glass (stained): *Bazley.*
Gloucestershire: *Davis.* *See* "Baunton," "Bristol," "Chavenage," "Cirencester," "Eastleach Martin," "Eastleach Turville," "Hayles," "Kingswood."
Great Holland: *Beaumont.*
Greek antiquities: *Bosanquet, Brooks, Dickson, Gardner (E. A.), Gardner (Percy), Haddon, Harrison, Haverfield, Hogarth, Howorth, Karo, Munro, Murray, Peers, Perdrizet, Phené, Savignoni, Walters, Wroth.*
Guildford: *Bax.*
Gumfreston: *Laws.*

Haddon: *Carrington, Kerry.*
Hants: *See* "Silchester."
Havering atte Bower: *W.*
Hayles: *Bazeley.*
Heraldry: *André, Hope, MacDonald, Naunton, Were.*
Hertford: *Andrews.*
Hertfordshire: *Andrews, Gerish, Tregelles.* *See* "Amwell," "Braughing," "Furneaux Pelham," "Hertford," "Hoddesdon," "Mangrove," "Rye House," "Sawbridgeworth," "Stanstead Abbotts," "Stevenage," "Wallfields," "Ware," "Wheathampstead."
Hessle: *Boyle.*
High Wycombe: *Downs.*
Higham-on-the-hill: *Bellairs.*
Hinckley: *Harrold.*
Hoddesdon: *Andrews, Gerish.*
Holbeton: *Jewers.*
Holyrood: *Sinclair.*
Houses: *Adams, Fawsley, Lega-Weekes, Scott, Seth-Smith.*
Huntingdonshire. *See* "Little Gidding."

Ightham: *Scott, Woodruff.*
Inclosures: *Gay.*
India: *Anderson, Crooke, Dutt, Plunkett, Swynnerton.*
Ingleby Arncliffe: *Brown.*
Inis Chlothrann: *Bigger, Hewson.*
Inscriptions: *Ferguson, Fitzgerald, Haverfield, MacDonald, Munro, Offord, Peers, Pilcher.*
Inventions: *Ferguson.*
Iona: *O'Reilly.*
Ireland: *Baillie, Ball, Barry, Bigger, Buckley, Burtchaell, D'Arcy, Day, Devitt, Fitzgerald, Graham, Joyce, O'Reilly, Stokes, Synnot.* *See* "Caher," "Clane," "Clare," "Connaught," "Dublin," "Durrow," "Glanworth," "Longford," "Valentia."
Italy: *Browne.*

Jarrow: *Savage.*
Jews: *Benas.*
John (King): *Norgate.*

Kendall: *Curwen.*
Kent: *Payne, Quick, Wadmore.* *See* "Bromley," "Deal," "Faversham," "Ightham," "Maidstone," "Milton," "Northbourne," "Richborough," "Rochester," "St. Lawrence," "St. Margaret at Cliffe," "Shorne."
Kingswood: *Perkins.*

Lacock: *Brakspear.*

Lanark: *Davidson.*
Lancashire: *Fishwick, Rylands.* *See* "Cartmel," "Flookburgh," "Furness," "Liverpool," "Manchester," "Warrington."
Leeds: *Leeds.*
Leicestershire: *Hartopp.* *See* "Higham-on-the-Hill," "Hinckley."
Leper hospital: *Doe.*
Lexden: *Laver.*
Lincolnshire: *Massingberd.*
Literary history: *Axon, Crum, Dix, Ferguson, Floyer, MacBean, Rosedale, Rowe.*
Little Gidding: *Noble.*
Littleton: *Ponting.*
Liverpool: *Benas, Peet.*
Llantwit Major: *Halliday.*
London: *Borrajo, Compton, Cooper, Davis, Hales, Hudson, Kershaw, Kirkman, Maurice, Newton, Price, Temple, Wilson.*
Longford: *Magan.*
Longforgan: *Millar.*
Lullington: *Marshall.*

Maidstone: *Levett.*
Manchester: *Oakley.*
Mangrove: *Caldecott.*
Manorial history: *Adams, Beaumont, Bryan, Carrington, Coleman, Davenport, Kenyon, Kerry, Lloyd, Pearman, Wilson.*
Marriage registers: *Clay, Cope.*
Marston Magna: *Ponting.*
Maryport: *Bailey.*
Matlock: *Birch, Ward.*
Measures: *Holland.*
Micronesian objects: *Christian.*
Military history: *Day, Dixon, Leslie, Windeatt.*
Millom: *Sykes.*
Milton: *Milton.*
Milton (Great): *Dryden*
Mines: *Birch, O'Reilly.*
Misereres: *Fryer.*
Moats: *Cooke-Trench.*
Monuments, tombs, brasses: *Andrews, Bax, Cambridgeshire, Christy, Cooke-Trench, Davis, Fitzgerald, Harwood, Hunt, M., Macklin, Manning, Marshall, Millar, Smith, Stephenson.*
Moraytown: *Wallace.*
Municipal history: *Berry, Cowper, Drinkwater, Ellis, Giraud, Harrod, Hunt, Keatinge, Risk, Windeatt.*
Napoleon III.: *O'Hanlon.*
New Guinea: *Guise.*
New Hebrides: *Edge-Partington.*
New Zealanders: *Edge-Partington.*
Nonconformity: *Windeatt.*
Northamptonshire. *See* "Canons Ashby."
Northbourne: *Northbourne.*
Northumberland: *Dixon, Hodgson, Tomlinson.*
Numismatics:
Anglo-Saxon: *Boyd, Grantley Howorth.*
Charles I.: *Lawrence.*
Edward III.: *Lawrence.*
English gold coins: *Evans.*
Greek: *Wroth.*
Henry VI.–Henry VII.: *Lawrence.*
Medals: *Day, Ready, Winstone.*
Parthian: *Wroth.*
Roman: *Bailey, Gerish, Grueber, Maurice.*
Smyrna: *Oman.*
South African Republic: *Coinage.*
Tenth Century: *Rotherham.*
Tokens: *Andrews.*

Oaths: *Clark.*
Ogwell, East: *Adams.*
Ogwell, West: *Adams.*
Otmoor: *Prior.*
Oxford: *Hunt, Smith.*
Oxfordshire: *D., Hone.* *See* "Bolney," "Burford," "Caversfield," "Checkenden," "Fawsley," "Great Milton," "Otmoor," "Oxford," "Somerton," "Weston."

Paintings (wall): *André.*
Parish clerks: *Kingsford.*
Parish documents: *Willis-Bund.*
Parish registers: *Bradbrook, Laws, Leeds, Maddock, Rice, Vane.*
Parliamentary surveys: *Cox.*
Partick: *White.*
Patrington: *Lloyd.*
Pencaitland: *Anderson.*
Penwith: *Peter.*
Peterborough: *Phené.*
Place names: *Haverfield, MacKay.*
Pocklington: *Leach.*
Political history: *Lord.*
Plymouth: *Risk.*
Prehistoric remains: *Sheppard.*
Barrows: *Worth.*
Burial places: *Johnston, Pryor, Richardson, Ward.*
Chronology: *Montelius, Petrie.*

Prehistoric remains (*continued*)—
Cinerary urns: *Fishwick.*
Cists: *Anderson, Coles, Richardson.*
Dolmens: *Allen, D., Westropp.*
Eolithic: *Quick.*
Implements: *Gaythorpe, Stopes.*
India: *Anderson.*
Kitchen midden: *Richardson.*
Lake dwellings: *Bruce, D'Arcy, Magan.*
Neolithic: *Astley.*
Pitcairn island: *Brown.*
Stone circles: *Coles, Lewis.*
Protection of ancient monuments: *B., Eyre.*

Quantock: *Greswell.*

Radnorshire: *Lloyd.*
Reading: *Brigg.*
Repton: *Hipkins.*
Richborough: *Dowker, Garstang.*
Rievaulx: *Rye.*
Rings (posy): *Caldecott.*
Rochester (diocese): *Arnold, Hope, Payne.*
Roman remains: *Haverfield, Taylor.*
Altars: *Bailey, Cripps, Ely.*
Charms: *Haverfield.*
Inscriptions: *MacDonald.*
Mines: *Birch, Haverfield.*
Pottery: *Andrews, Gerish.*
Richborough: *Dowker, Garstang.*
Rings: *Grueber.*
Roads: *Cole.*
Rome: *Boni.*
Silchester: *Hope.*
Silver refinery: *Gowland.*
Stations: *Gerish.*
Stone coffins: *Beaumont.*
Suffolk: *Fox.*
Urns, cinerary: *Andrews, Glasscock.*
Trackway: *Gerish.*
Vases: *Caldecott.*
War galleys: *Marks.*
See "Numismatics."
Rose Ash: *Saunders.*
Rous Lench: *Chafy.*
Runic inscriptions: *Ferguson.*
Russia: *Beazley, Collyer.*
Rye House: *Gerish.*

St. David's: *Fryer.*
St. Lawrence: *Cotton.*
St. Margaret-at-Cliffe: *Livett.*
St. Martha-on-Hill: *André.*
St. Michael's Mount: *Peter.*
St. Patrick's Purgatory: *MacRitchie.*
Saints, lives of: *Baring-Gould, Beeby, Druitt, Fitzgerald, Fowler, Stubbs.*
Samplers: *Lediard.*
Sancton: *Hall.*
Sawbridgeworth: *Glasscock.*
Scandinavia: *Montelius.*
Schools: *Leach.*
Scotland: *Anderson, Brydall, Buchan, Christison, Coles, Fergusson, Gray, Lewis, Mylne. See* "Berwick," "Bute," "Cluny," "Clyde," "Dunbar," "Elgin," "Glasgow," "Holyrood," "Lanark," "Longforgan," "Moraytown," "Partick," "Pencaitland," "Shetland," "Strathdearn," "Sutherland."
Seals: *Campbell, Eyre, Thomas.*
Sermons (early): *Calvert.*
Severn End: *Sheppard.*
Sheen: *André.*
Shetland: *Johnston.*
Ship money: *Waller.*
Shorne: *Payne.*
Shrewsbury: *Drinkwater, Finch, Fletcher.*
Shropshire: *Auden. See* "Shrewsbury," "Wombridge."
Silchester: *Gowland, Hope.*
Slavery: *Meakin.*
Solemn League and Covenant: *Young.*
Solomon islanders: *Edge-Partington.*
Somersetshire: *Bates, Ussher. See* "Allerton," "Lullington," "Marston Magna," "Quantock," "Winsford."
Somerton: *Barnes.*
Spoons: *Markham.*
Stansfield: *Little.*
Stanstead Abbotts: *Andrews, Gerish.*
Stevenage: *Pryor.*
Strathdearn: *MacDougall.*
Suffolk: *Fox, Suffolk. See* "Badingham," "Stansfield," "Sweffling," "Tholdman."
Sundials: *Lloyd.*
Surrey: *Bax, C., Cooper, Johnston, Stephenson. See* "Beddington," "Bletchingley," "Fetcham," "Guildford," "St. Martha-on-Hill," "Sheen," "Waverley."
Sussex: *André, Rice. See* "Winchelsea."
Sutherland: *MacKay, Munro.*
Sweden: *Murray.*
Sweffling: *Farrer, Rivett-Carnac.*

Thames valley: *Haverfield, Stopes.*
Tholdman: *Raven.*

Torrington (Great): *Hughes.*
Torrington (Little): *Doe.*
Totnes: *Hughes, Stainthorpe, Windeatt (E.), Windeatt (T. W.).*
Town gates: *Bilson.*
Tribal hidage: *Corbett.*
Truro: *Jennings.*
Turville: *Cocks.*

Valentia harbour: *Lynch.*
Vancouver islanders: *Edge-Partington.*

Wales: *Glynne, Yeatman. See* "Abergavenny," "Bangor," "Brecon," "Gumfreston," "Llantwit Major," "Radnorshire," "St. David's."
Wallfields: *Caldecott.*
Wantage: *Ditchfield.*
Ware: *Andrews, Evans.*
Warrington: *Ball.*
Warter: *Hope.*
Warwickshire. *See* "Compton Wynyates."
Waverley: *Cooper.*
Wells: *Fitzgerald.*
Wheathampstead: *Read.*
Whitbeck: *Collingwood.*
Whitechurch canonicorum: *Druitt.*
Westmorland: *Cowper. See* "Kendall."
Weston, North: *M.*
Wills: *Cooper, Phillips, Sherwood.*
Wiltshire: *Wiltshire. See* "Bulford," "Durrington," "Enford," "Lacock," "Littleton."
Winchelsea: *Rice.*
Windsor: *Hope.*
Winestead: *Miller, Stephenson.*
Winsford: *Dicker.*
Wombridge: *Morris.*
Worcester: *Floyer.*
Worcestershire. *See* "Feckenham," "Rous Lench," "Severn End," "Worcester."
Workington: *Curwen.*

Yorkshire: *Chadwick, Chambers, Clark, Clay, Cole, Cox, Ellis, Hawkesbury, Maddock, Morris, Poppleton, Yorkshire. See* "Bessingby," "Beverley," "Hessle," "Ingleby Arncliffe," "Leeds," "Patrington," "Pocklington," "Rievaulx," "Sancton," "Warter," "Wnestead."

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